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THE WEST AND THE EAST.

Two very important "questions" are coming before us just now. One has long enjoyed a sad notoriety as the "Eastern Question"; the other, which is quite a new one, is the "Western" or American question, and both are supposed to interest England in almost a vital manner. The possibility that the Southern States of America may, before long, be severed from the Northern need not affect us very considerably (except, no doubt, in a moral and sympathetic point of view), were it not for the fact that we get six-sevenths of our raw cotton from the former, and that, unless we make treaties such as they themselves as Slave States would dictate, numerous and perhaps fatal impediments may be thrown in the way of the supply. This, at least, is the view of those journals which, as a general rule, profess such unbounded faith in the general principles of commerce, and, above all, in the well-known law of supply and demand. It seems to us that although, no doubt, England would be much injured by being denied even for a year her American supply of raw cotton, the Southern States of America would be irretrievably ruined by refusing it. Still the threat of refusal has come to us from the other side of the Atlantic, and one of the secessionist journals has gone so far as to boast that, in case of war between the North and South, the Southerners could force England to fight their battles under the penalty of having the whole of her cotton manufacture arrested. However, it is for Republicans to theorise on assumed facts. If we look to the past, we find no instance of a nation refusing to trade with another for the sake of "an idea." On the contrary, the strictest prohibitory tariff, and even a rigorous system of blockade, have never prevented a nation with goods to sell from supplying them to another nation with money to purchase. During the existence of Napoleon's "Continental system" it was found quite impossible to stop the contraband trade which was carried on between England and all the countries in the north of Europe, including France itself in the northern provinces; and we are convinced that if, unhappily, the Slave States should separate from the Free States of America, neither the rupture of diplomatic relations between England and the States of the South, nor even actual war, would interfere very largely with our supply of American cotton.

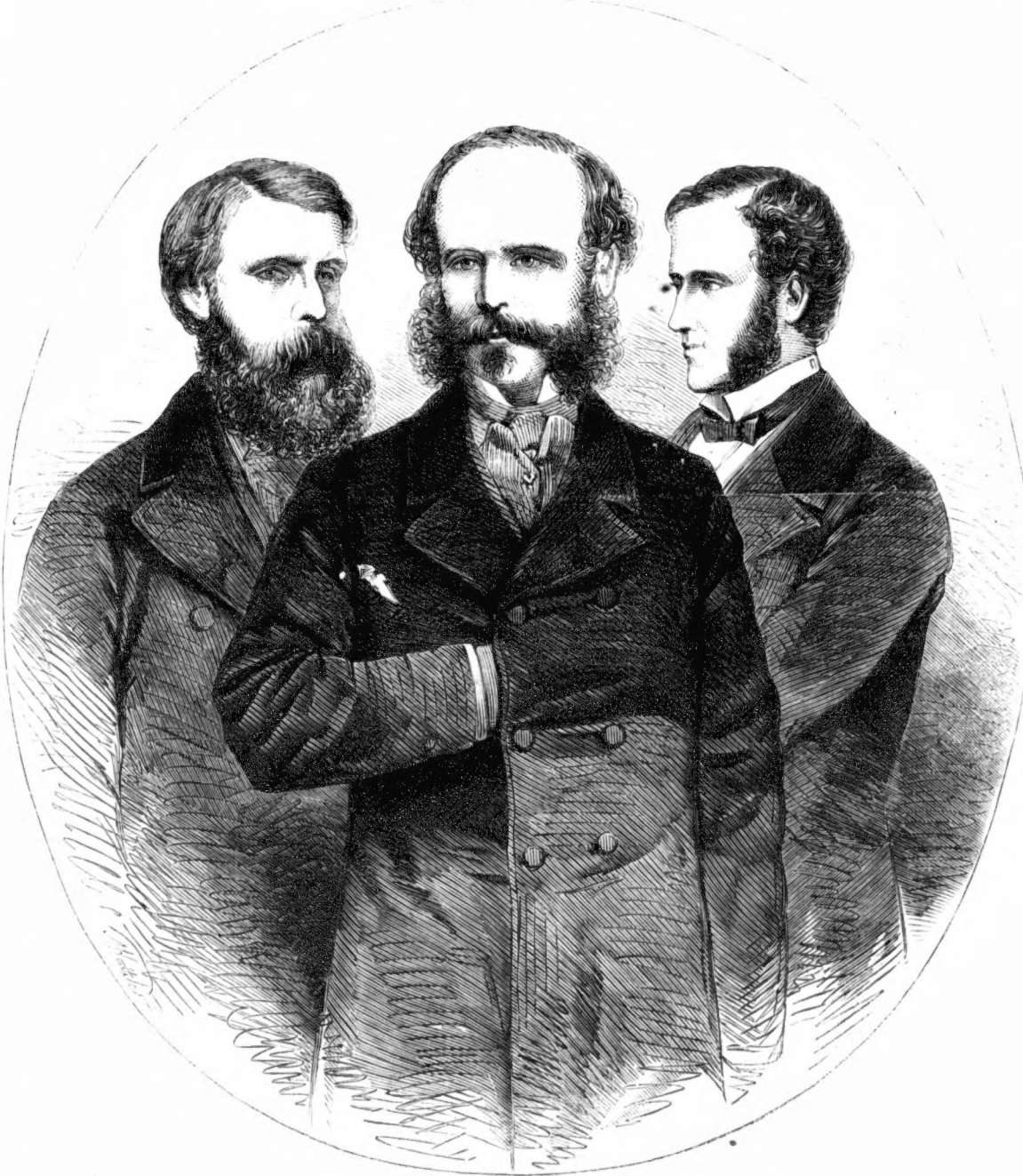
The Danubian Principalities are such a long way off, and are situated in such an obscure part of Europe (one on which the light of "our own correspondent" seldom falls, except in a very indirect manner), that many of us are inclined to hope that what is said to be taking place there is, after all, not true. We may be sure, however, that it is not for nothing that Sardinian arms a few weeks ago were sent up the Danube; and the tendencies of Moldavia, Wallachia, Servia, and Montenegro towards complete independence have been notorious ever since the signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1856. It is nearly certain, moreover, that if the flag of insurrection be raised by the Hungarians it will first be unfurled in the "annexes" of Hungary Proper—that is to say, in the border lands of Turkey. Direct orders to that effect are said to have been already issued to the Hungarian chiefs, and the stoppage on the Danube of a vessel laden with Sardinian rifles is quite in accordance with that rumour.

The ambition of Moldavia and Wallachia to form a separate independent State was first evinced in a striking manner as long ago as 1846. In that year a treaty of commerce was signed

between Stourdza and Bibesco, the Hospodars respectively of Moldavia and Wallachia, on which occasion the courtiers of the two little Monarchs parodied the celebrated *mot* of Louis XIV., "Il n'y a plus de Pyrénées," and, in allusion to a very small river which separates the Principalities, exclaimed, "The Milkoff no longer exists!" In the present day the said Milkoff, as a political boundary, has really no existence, and an administrative as well as a dynastic union exists between the two provinces. Prince Couza is only recognised by the Porte as Hospodar of Moldavia and Hospodar of Wallachia; but his subjects of the (*de facto*) united principalities regard him as Hospodar of Moldo-Wallachia, and Moldavia is governed in part by Wallachian officials, just as many of the public offices in Wallachia are filled by Moldavians. This union and amalgamation of Moldavia with Wallachia had

the summer of 1859. He has reopened the Isthmus-of-Suez question, though he is far from having cut through the Isthmus of Suez; but he has filled Egypt with French agents, and still maintains an army of occupation in Syria. Therefore, when the next Italian war breaks out, accompanied by a war in Hungary, which will be preceded by an insurrection in the Danubian Principalities, then the Italian and Hungarian "questions" will infallibly lead to a revival of the terrible "Eastern Question," and, whatever may be Louis Napoleon's solution of it, he will certainly be better able to bring it about now than he was a year and a half ago.

Russia has always encouraged the Christian provinces of Turkey to rise against the Sultan. "It is time," said one of the semi-official journals of Russia not long since, "to finish with these hordes of Turkomans, who for four centuries have oppressed six millions of our fellow-believers, profiting by the egotism and lamentable disunion of the Christians. The existence of this Monarchy in the bosom of Christian and civilised Europe can henceforth be only an apple of permanent discord. Europe ought to reflect seriously and definitively on the strange position of Turkey. Sad experience has proved that all hope of re-organisation is quite at an end. The sick man of yesterday is now on his death-bed." The above lines were published immediately after the discovery of the great Mussulman plot of September, 1859; and we may be sure that the news of the massacres in Syria did not increase the good feeling of the Russians, as a nation, towards the Turks. A war of independence in which Moldavia, Wallachia, Servia, and Montenegro should take part against Turkey would meet with abundance of sympathy from the Russian people, while the Russian Government would doubtless know how to derive from it important political advantages. Russia desires such a war, France equally desires it, and it is greatly feared both by Austria and by Turkey. We know those who expect to be the gainers and who the losers if there should be a great contest on the Danube. France's profit would probably be of an indirect nature, coming to her in the form of a sop or bribe elsewhere, and already bargained for; all Russia would get would be entire possession, sooner or later, of whatever provinces might succeed in liberating themselves either from the Austrian or from the Turkish rule. She has co-religionists in these provinces, and the inhabitants of many of them



MESSRS. LOCH, BOWLEY, AND PARKES.

always been strenuously opposed by Austria, and above all by Turkey, and has always been warmly supported by Russia and France. The independence of Servia under an hereditary Prince has also long been a favourite scheme of France and Russia, as it has long been one of the bugbears of Turkey and Austria. Since the dethronement of the Prince of Servia nominated by the Sultan, and the election by the Servians themselves of Prince Milosh (1859), the whole of the Christian Principalities of Turkey have been in a constant agitation, and are now only waiting for an opportunity, and for a little public encouragement from France and Russia, to throw off the Turkish yoke and declare themselves completely independent. The adjoining provinces belonging to the Austrian Crown, and which, like Servia and Montenegro, are peopled by Slavonians, are in a like state of excitement, and any outbreak which occurs in the Danubian provinces will be equally dangerous to Austria and to Turkey.

At present the French Emperor has a far more advantageous position or positions in the Turkish empire than he held in

speaking some form of the Slavonian language, and are of the Slavonian race; but, above all, Russia has long wished to have them, and that surely is a reason, even if those previously adduced be not admissible.

THE CHINESE PRISONERS, MESSRS. LOCH, BOWLEY AND PARKES.

ALL our readers have heard of the treachery by which the Chinese took some English gentlemen prisoners—of the sufferings and torture to which they were subjected. While under the assumed shelter of a flag of truce, a party of twenty-four—including Capt. Brabazon, Lieut. Anderson, Mr. Bowley (the *Times*' correspondent), Mr. De Norman, Mr. Loch, and Mr. Parkes—were seized prisoners, against all the rules of war. Finding it useless to resist the number of men by whom they were surrounded, they submitted to be taken. Of these gentlemen the party which contained Lieutenant Anderson, Mr. De Norman, and Mr. Bowley were, directly they reached Peking, put into tents. Half an hour after they were dragged out thrown on the ground, and tightly bound hand and foot. The

Chinese then lifted them up, and took them into a courtyard, where they remained in the open air for three days, exposed to sun and cold. All that time they had nothing to eat. If they spoke they were stamped on and beaten, while dirt was thrust into their mouths. This continued for three days, and they then had irons fastened on their necks, wrists, and ankles. In the afternoon of the fourth day they were separated and taken away in carts. Another party of seven was taken into the country. Among them was Lieutenant Anderson and Mr. De Norman. Put in prison, they were confined in cages and loaded with chains. Tightly bound with cords and kept without food, Lieutenant Anderson became delirious after the first day. His fingers burst from the tightness of the cords: the bones of his wrists were exposed; mortification set in. In this wretched state he died on the ninth day of his imprisonment. In this same state a Sikh died five days after. Three days after died Mr. De Norman. Further and further on, in another direction, a third party was taken, among whom was Mr. Bowlby. No authentic accounts have yet reached us of their fate beyond this, that one of them, Mr. Bowlby, perished.

Mr. Loch and Mr. Parkes immediately on dismounting from their horses were taken, with their arms bound behind them, to the Chinese Commander-in-Chief, before whom they were thrown down upon their knees, an operation which was constantly repeated whenever they were subsequently dragged before any Chinese official. After being abused, they were allowed to sit down till a cart arrived, in which, bound and thrust in brutally, they were jolted over the rough road to Tung-Chow. Here, exhausted by heat, dust, pain, and fatigue, they were brought before a Principal Secretary of State, who sent them to a small farmhouse, where they were deprived of their letters, papers, and watches. Thence removed to a small temple, they were, after rough usage by soldiers, put into a common country cart, which drove off with them at a quick pace along the Pekin paved road. For seven hours they endured agony from their hands being behind them, and were intensely thirsty from pain, heat, and dust; yet only once or twice was water given to them. About night-fall they reached Pekin. They drew up before the "Hsing-Poo," or "Board of Punishment." Taken into a small, dimly-lighted room, the walls of which were hung with chains and other evidences of torture, they were forced down upon their knees to be examined by a white-buttoned mandarin. Every time Mr. Loch, from his not knowing the Chinese language, failed to answer, he was shaken, cuffed, knocked forward on his face, seized by the hair, and pulled by the ear and beard; while the same treatment was awarded to Mr. Parkes whenever he spoke, since the Chinese affected to treat all his answers as lies, and invariably received them by pulling his hair. They were conveyed to a long, barnlike building with grated windows, the common goal, where he found himself among half-naked, savage, villanous-looking thieves and murderers, all in chains, all afflicted with itch, and all covered with vermin. Chained up by a neckchain to a beam over their heads, and laid down on a hard board to rest as best they might, they remained for many days cruelly treated, ill-fed, kept in chains, watched and guarded. Both these gentlemen were ultimately restored, but we have still to lament the fate of their companions. Of Mr. Loch, Mr. Parkes, and the late Mr. Bowlby we are able to present the Portraits to our readers.

Mr. Henry Brougham Loch entered the East India Company's service in the Bengal cavalry in 1844, and served through the Sutlej campaign as an Aide-de-Camp to Lord Gough. In three years he was Adjutant to his regiment, and was appointed to the command of Skinner's Horse in 1851. Returning to England in 1854, he offered his services to assist in forming the Turkish cavalry in Bulgaria. After serving in the Crimea he relinquished his commission in the Company's service and retired. In April, 1857, he accompanied the Earl of Elgin on his mission to China as First Attaché, and was selected by that nobleman to bring home the treaty with Japan, signed at Jeddo in August, 1858.

Mr. Harry Smith Parkes was employed in the service of the Crown for his proficiency in the Chinese language, as well as for that quiet but determined energy which seems to distinguish him. He acted as interpreter at Foo-Chow-Foo in 1845 and 1846, at Shanghai in 1848, and at Amoy in the succeeding year. In August, 1854, he was appointed British Consul at the latter place, and in the following year accompanied Sir James Bowring to Siam in his special mission. He had the honour to bring the Siamese Treaty with this country, and to return with its ratification in January, 1856. On his return to Canton he was appointed (June, 1856) Consul, and in September, 1848, he was transferred to Shanghai. On the Earl of Elgin reaching China he was selected as principal interpreter.

Mr. T. W. Bowlby, whose death will be a loss not only to a large circle of friends but to the profession of which he was an eminent member, was, it is said, originally connected with the law, but, as is frequently the case, turned to a more genial pursuit, for which he was eminently qualified, and became the *Times'* special correspondent. His death may be regarded almost as a national loss, since the whole country had been waiting for his description of that almost fabulous city where his body now rests, in the Russian Cemetery, after having been delivered over by the Chinese authorities, and interred with honour and respect.

FRENCH NAVIGATION LAWS.—From Paris we learn that Mr. W. S. Lindsay, M. P., has had an interview with the Emperor on the subject of obtaining from France privileges for English ships in French ports:—"It is said that Mr. Lindsay showed to the Emperor, on documentary evidence, that during ninety years of strict protection the increase in English shipping was 1,170,000 tons; that in thirty years of only partial free trade the increase was 3,000,000; while in only eight years of free trade the increase was 1,740,000 tons, or about 600,000 tons more than during ninety years of protection; that, on a comparison of the tonnage in each country for the last twenty years, the increase of French sailing-vessels was 370,000 tons, and in steam-vessels 50,000; while in England it was in sailing-vessels 2,800,000, and in steamers 400,000 tons. France has not shipping enough to carry on her commerce; and Mr. Lindsay showed that the total entries at French ports in 1858 amounted to 4,163,600 tons, and that of this amount there were of foreign ships 2,550,000 tons; that France pays large sums every year to promote her shipping, but without effect, for it does not increase like that of other countries, and that the existing differential duties yield no revenue. It was also submitted that the results from the commercial treaty with England will not be so great as anticipated without a change in the navigation laws of France." The *Times'* correspondent says:—"It is said that the Emperor has been much struck with the statements on the navigation laws of France contained in Mr. Lindsay's memorandum."

A PARIS MORDRE.—A well-dressed young man and woman entered a restaurant in the Boulevard du Temple a few days since, and ordered supper. Some time after the waiter, on entering with a dish they had ordered, found them lying on the floor in a pool of blood, the female with a deep wound in her breast, the man with one in his left side. They were still alive. In the hand of the young man were two pieces of paper, on one of which was written, evidently by a female, "I die, struck with my own consent, by the hand of my lover. Denise R—"; and on the other, in a man's writing, "I die now, because I am weary of life. R—." They were removed to the Hôpital St. Antoine. Shortly after their arrival the man died, without speaking a word; but the woman is likely to recover. She says that her lover was a Corporal in the 6th Regiment, and that he had that day spent the last of a sum of 2000*fr.* which he had received to serve as a substitute in the army. Having no money, he had proposed to her that they should die together; she consented, and they wrote the two sentences quoted above. Then she had bared her breast, and the man had stabbed her with a poniard, after which he plunged the weapon into his own side.

THE FUGITIVE SLAVE ANDERSON.—The case of the fugitive slave Anderson, now lying in the goal of Toronto, was on Tuesday brought before the Court of Queen's Bench by Mr. Edwin James, who applied for a writ of habeas corpus commanding the Governor of Canada and others to bring up the body of the prisoner, on the ground of his illegal detention and his life being in danger. This application was made on the part of the Secretary to the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. After a lengthened discussion of authorities and precedents the Lord Chief Justice announced that, although sensible of the inconvenience that might result from such an exercise of judicial power, the decision was that the writ must be issued.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The *Moniteur* publishes a decree convoking the Senate and the Legislative Body for the 4th of February. The official journal also publishes a tabular statement of the indirect taxation of France during 1860, as compared with previous years, from which it appears that the diminution of revenue from that source during last year, as compared with 1859, had been 20,932,000*fr.*

The Emperor of the French has furnished a reason for his troops remaining in Syria beyond the period of six months fixed by the Syrian convention. It is said that, in answer to a verbal communication made through Lord Cowley, M. Thouvenel has sent a despatch to our Government, in which he states that regard for the lives of their co-religionists will not permit the French Government to recall the army of occupation at the expiration of the period fixed by the convention.

The report of the formation of a fourth regiment of Grenadiers of the Imperial Guard is declared by the *Moniteur* to be "inexact."

M. de Persigny has addressed a circular to the Prefects to guide their conduct at elections. The text has not appeared, but it is understood that, while recommending them to abstain from all pressure, he adheres to the principle of recommending "Government candidates."

The *Moniteur* of Thursday says:—"The object in sending the French fleet to Gaeta was to give a mark of sympathy to a Prince cruelly tried by destiny. The Emperor, faithful to the principle of non-intervention, never intended to take any active part in the conflict at that place. In prolonging this demonstration he would change its character, and would give encouragement and material support to the resistance of the King. It therefore became necessary to cause the cessation of this state of things. We could not indefinitely remain present at a conflict which could only lead to a greater effusion of blood. By the advice given by France to the belligerents hostilities are suspended until the 19th instant, and Admiral Barbier de Tinan will leave Gaeta to-day."

SPAIN.

The Moors have announced to the Spanish Government that they are prepared to pay a further instalment of 40,000,000 reals, for which the Spaniards had become very pressing.

The Government has proposed measures for causing a decrease in the emigration to America.

PRUSSIA.

The Prussian Chambers were opened on Monday by the King in person. In his address his Majesty reasserted his intention to remain faithful to the principles of government which he imposed on himself on assuming the Regency. Alluding to the foreign relations of his kingdom, he said they had become still more friendly by the personal meetings which had taken place, and it was therefore the more to be regretted that the steps taken by Germany for the settlement of the German Duchies question remained without result. Prussia, as well as the rest of Germany, his Majesty said, recognises it as a natural duty to bring about a proper solution of the question. The King also alluded to the new organisation of the army, which he said was necessary for maintaining the integrity of the German territory. On the whole, the tendencies of the speech appear to be pacific and friendly as regards France, but threatening with respect to Denmark. The hasty mobilisation of the Prussian army is generally attributed to the complications likely to arise with the Danish nation.

A political amnesty has been proclaimed at Berlin. Its terms appear to be very comprehensive. They include all persons who have been found guilty of high treason against the country; of offences against the Sovereign or the Constitution; of abuses of the rights of citizenship, resistance to the State's authority, or disturbance of order. Permission is, moreover, accorded to those to return who, by flying from the territories of Prussia, had evaded judicial inquiry and legal judgment. Should they have been actually condemned, the Minister of Justice will propose their pardon. The King will himself decide in the cases of those condemned by military tribunal.

The Crown Prince of Prussia is to be named Governor of Pomerania. Ever since Frederick William I this office has always been conferred on the heir to the Crown.

AUSTRIA.

The position of Austria does not yet appear very satisfactory. Recent financial measures have produced a severe public depression. The electoral law for the German provinces is not well received by public opinion or by the press, and the general distrust is augmented by the protraction of the Ministerial crisis, which still leaves it uncertain whether the programme of M. de Schmerling is likely to be realised. The amnesty, however, which has been accorded to Hungary and to the annexed provinces has not failed to meet with a good reception.

The decree convoking the Hungarian Diet was signed by the Emperor on the 8th. It was to be published on the 18th; and, as the law of Hungary requires an interval of seventy-three days between the date of convocation and the meeting of the Diet, it will not open before the 2nd of April. The Diet will meet at Ofen, as Pesth has no convenient building for the purpose.

The Comitatus of Neustra, following the example of the other Comitatus, have resolved on a programme embracing a responsible Government for Hungary, a Diet elected on the basis of the laws of 1848, the removal of foreign troops, and a liberal constitution to the other Crown lands, &c.

A letter from Raab says:—"Kossuth, Klapka, Inasz, Kmety, Xantus, Beke and Ronay have been elected members of the commission of the comitat of Raab in the midst of the most enthusiastic acclamations."

Count George Apponyi has been appointed *Judex Curie* for Hungary, in the place of Count Czirakys.

Austria and Bavaria have notified to the Swiss Federal Council that they decline henceforth to co-operate with Switzerland for the construction of the projected railway round the Bolensee (Lake of Constance). Austria gave as a reason for her resolution that the loss of Lombardy rendered it necessary that the German traffic should now pass through the Tyrol.

RUSSIA.

Advices from St. Petersburg state that the Russian Cabinet has under consideration at the present moment certain reforms in the military organisation, and that Prince Gortschakoff, the Governor of Poland, is expected shortly in the Russian capital, when he will be called upon to give his opinion on the advisability of recalling the soldiers absent on furlough. There is also some question of appointing the Prince to the presidency of the Council of the Empire.

The Russian measures for the emancipation of the serfs are stated to be likely to undergo a postponement of their final accomplishment to the autumn.

DENMARK.

The Danish Plenipotentiary to the Germanic Confederation is said to have received from his Government an order to quit Frankfurt if the Diet received any proposal tending to a Federal proceeding against Denmark. The second edition of the *Dagbladet* of Copenhagen published on the 11th an article of very warlike purport, urging upon the Danish Government the immediate formation of an armament and the removal of war materials and ammunition from Rendsburg and Holstein. A correspondent of the *Cologne Gazette* affirms that France disapproves of the proceedings of Denmark, and

will take no step to interfere with the course which the Germanic Confederation may decide upon adopting.

The Danish Government is energetically preparing to meet the anticipated attack on the part of Prussia and Germany. In the navy yard the works are being pushed forward, and 4000 additional sailors will, it is said, soon be called out.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

The Porte has demanded of M. Mires whether he can carry through the proposed loan, the completion of which is opposed by a party in the Cabinet.

The Turkish Government have received intimation of the approaching arrival of five ships laden with munitions for the Danube; and this intelligence has not unnaturally aroused the alarm of the representatives of Austria and Russia at Constantinople, who have addressed strong notes to the Porte on the subject.

A Viennese journal affirms, from a source which it pronounces reliable, that the Porte had recalled Omar Pacha from exile, and appointed him Commander-in-Chief of the army, which is to be concentrated on the Danube.

A report has reached us that a band of about 2000 Montenegrins attacked, on the 9th inst., a garrison on the Albanian frontiers, but were repulsed with some loss.

AMERICA.

WAR DEMONSTRATIONS BY THE PRESIDENT.

The latest news of the secession movement is that President Buchanan was about to send to Congress his answer to South Carolina. He informs the Commission that he not only intends to collect the revenue and execute the laws, but also to defend the property of the United States with all the force at his command. Two war-steamers were to be dispatched to Charleston. It was rumoured that all the important posts in the South would be immediately reinforced. It was also reported that the Government fortifications and arsenals had been seized in North Carolina and Georgia. Warlike preparations continued in South Carolina. In the New York State Legislature a resolution had been proposed authorising the Governor to tender to the national Administration 10,000 militia to put down the insurrection in the South.

Mr. Floyd, Mr. Buchanan's Secretary at War, has resigned. It is said that there was an understanding between the President and the Secretary on the one hand, and the Commissioners from South Carolina on the other, that the position of military affairs at Charleston was to undergo no alteration. Hence the act of Major Anderson in abandoning Fort Moultrie and occupying Fort Sumter was stigmatised as a breach of faith by the Commissioners, who required that the troops should return to the first-named fort, which, be it remembered, may be easily captured, while the other, if not impregnable, is, at all events, capable of a very stout defence. Secretary Floyd was in favour of yielding to this demand; but a majority of the Cabinet voted for supporting Major Anderson in the step which he had taken.

South Carolina has now assumed all the prerogatives of sovereignty. She has passed ordinances for the regulation of the revenue collection and the navigation laws. She has authorised the Governor to appoint Ambassadors and Consuls to foreign States, and also to form an Executive or Cabinet Council.

The greatest excitement continued to prevail in both Houses of Congress. Senator Benjamin, of Louisiana, had delivered a strong secession speech, which, no doubt, indicates accurately the course which his State will pursue. In the House of Representatives the Committee on Military Affairs has been instructed to inquire into the condition of the forts and arsenals and other collateral questions.

CHINA.

The information from China by the overland mail is in the main confirmatory of the news received by telegram. Official correspondence between Lord Elgin and Prince Kung has been published. The Prince, submitting to fate, has overcome his morose fit and assumed a cheerful aspect, exhibiting a teachable and complaint disposition. Lord Elgin expresses himself perfectly satisfied with the edict of the Emperor ratifying and adopting the treaty and convention, which had been published in the *Pekin Gazette*, printed on placards, and posted in all the conspicuous parts of the city. In his interviews with Prince Kung his Lordship seems fairly to have impressed him with the advantages that would arise from the more direct intercourse between the foreign Ministers and the Government of Peking which will take place under the new treaties. Mr. Bruce, also, in a private interview with the Prince, made a similar impression on him. The information Mr. Bruce gave him of the progress of the rebels, and the line of conduct the British Government would take in reference to them, was listened to by the Prince with great attention, who expressed himself obliged for the information, much of which was quite new to him. As Lord Elgin found that it was not the intention of General Ignatieff to winter in Peking, and as Baron Gros thought it was not advisable that M. de Bourbillon should establish himself there till the spring, his Lordship settled that Mr. Bruce should withdraw to Tien-Tsin, and return to Peking when a suitable residence was prepared for him, Mr. Adkins, one of the student interpreters, volunteering to remain in the city to superintend the arrangements.

Mr. Bruce recommended that a Chinese Ambassador should be sent to England. The fact of this suggestion having been made appears to constitute the sole ground for the statement that an Ambassador would be appointed. One sentence in a brief letter from Mr. Adkins presents the Chinese people in a very favourable aspect. "The disposition of the people," says Mr. Adkins, "seems to be friendly enough, and in my rides and walks about the city I am as free from molestation now as I should have been while the allied forces were before the city."

At Canton an important concession has been obtained from the Governor-General. Permission has been given to the Bo-peep, a foreign steamer, to run in some of the inland waters, and trade with Kum Chook, a village among the silk villages to the west of Canton, and also to Shek-Loong, a village whence sugar may be expected in large quantities, in the Toonkoon district. This is the beginning of what may be an immense carrying traffic.

The Chinese Viceroy has granted to the French missionaries, for the erection of a Catholic church, a magnificent space of ground, situated in Canton itself, where stood, before the occupation of that city, the palace of the celebrated Governor Yeh.

A letter was recently addressed by the leader of the Taepings to Lord Elgin. We extract the following passages:—

"During this year, relying on the power of Heaven, I have succeeded in capturing Soochow and Hangchow, and should now be pleased that the missionaries of every country would come forward, prepare, and make known the true principles of the Gospel to my people, at which I should greatly rejoice beyond the power of expression, desiring that those who are of the same doctrine might soon become of the same heart: the publication of this doctrine would then soon become general, and the right way be made clear; ere long the whole country, even to its very borders, would practise Christ's system of worship, and publish it without limit. Truly would this be a flourishing, glorious result!"

Now, as to the honourable countries the several Ministers of which are at Shanghai fostering the establishment of factories for commerce, I beg to remark to them that, as commerce for these several past years in succession has been going on as it should, why not pursue the same road as in former days? I myself am willing to treat with the several Ministers, and according to the constant regulations govern all the laws of the custom-houses in relation to receiving duties, entirely acting upon the prepared rules, most certainly not increasing the duties; because our heavenly dynasty, together with these honourable countries, reveres the same heavenly system of worship, so that it may be said that all we under Heaven so doing appertain to one family. Why should not all the brethren of the four seas throughout the world—east, west, north, and south—pursue the practice of peace and goodwill towards each other? Taking all together, I beseech your honourable countries to exercise liberality of thought towards us."

Though I have this year repeatedly urged a correspondence, yet I have not had the good fortune to receive a documentary reply, by which my mind might be delivered from perplexity and suspense.

I have recently received the command to subjugate the north, south, east, and west, with reference to the place of location. Although at the time of receiving the holy instructions I most devotedly designed their fulfilment in minutely, yet in embodying the way of carrying them out I did not purpose greatly producing disorder and destruction, bringing shame and remorse on myself.

The New Testament, which your honourable country so greatly prizes, is that which our heavenly dynasty has cut on blocks for printing; and, though the languages are different, the meaning is but one; and soon we shall obey it, regard it, and thoroughly circulate it throughout China. But I truly fear that the yeomanry and common people may err with regard to the object of reverence about which our heavenly dynasty and your honourable country are united; and, having really erred, the deception may be handed down from generation to generation to no limited extent.

I have prepared this letter for your honourable country, and earnestly beg that you will have the important ideas therein contained on the various subjects referred to translated for the information of those who do not understand, so that they may know the fact that our true and holy lord, Hung-sow-chuen, has already published the true doctrine, which has been extensively circulated in the Middle Country—China. Hereafter, should we mutually act in concert, and not in opposition, the united efforts of our central and foreign countries as one body will, in its luminous manifestations, perfect the design of giving our holy religion and the Holy Scriptures to myriads of places, flowing down like a limpid stream in promulgation, through the attentive and obedient, from generation to generation.

The letters from Peking by this mail, though not conveying anything of importance, have several interesting items.

OUR TROOPS AND THE IMPERIAL GUARD.

The English troops which were encamped and quartered in the villages about three miles from Peking were lately concentrated round the gate we hold, it being thought they were too much scattered, with an army of 30,000 Tartars so close to them. This army is the Emperor's guard, and when he made it known that he intended to retreat with it thirty miles to the west of the city his Council addressed a memorial to him, which was found in the Summer Palace, stating "that they all had the profoundest reverence for the skill which prompted such a measure; but to their weak minds it occurred it would be better if he left the city to march eastward and assist San-ko-in-sin. They also begged to remind him of the important and significant fact that every one of his august ancestors who had taken the same step had never returned at all, or were brought back as prisoners." He went, however, and these troops are entrenched between him and Peking. He is about thirty miles away in the mountains, ready for a start into Tartary at a moment's notice.

PRINCE KUNG.

Prince Kung appears to be about thirty-one or thirty-two years old; he is rather short, and would be handsome in the face if the mouth and chin did not spoil the other features, as they do all high-born Tartars, by making them look sheepish. He was dressed in a puce-coloured satin robe, with the Imperial dragon coiled in a circle about a foot in diameter, and embroidered in gold on his breast, shoulders, and back. He wore a common Chinese cap, without any ornament. He remained over two hours, and during the conversation after lunch said "that until our visit this year they did not know that India was merely a province of the British empire; they formerly believed Great Britain to be a very small island, the population of which was so large that more than half were obliged to live in ships."

THE PLUNDER OF THE SUMMER PALACE.

It has been estimated that the amount of property pillaged and destroyed exceeds £5,000,000 sterling. Every soldier who was present is replete with loot. On entering the Emperor's particular residence no one knew what to take. Silver was thrown away to take up gold, and gold to take up jewelled watches and gems. China and enamelled vases (the manufacture of which is lost) of priceless value were broken because too bulky to carry away. Rooms and rooms full of costly silks, bronzes, jade-stone ornaments, and the presents received by the Emperors, every article being labelled with the name of the donor, were ruthlessly looted and destroyed. Much more has been buried beneath the ruins, however, than was carried away. The Emperor's washstand, basin, and ewer of gold, studded with stones, were sold for £200 by the captor. Lord Amherst's watch was sold by a French soldier for twenty dollars; it was worth £200. Many men have thirty or forty pounds of pure gold in their possession, and others have pearls and precious stones of unknown value. Four hundred eunuchs were found in the palace, and it is worth noting that all the ladies of the Court must have had natural-sized feet, all the slippers found in their rooms being large. Not a single cramp-footed shoe was seen.

AUSTRALIA.

From Australia we have again the news of a Ministerial crisis at Melbourne. The Nicholson Ministry experienced an adverse vote in Parliament, and have once more resigned. The yield of the gold-fields in Victoria, as well as New South Wales, was good, and somewhat increasing; and in commercial affairs there was little or no change.

AFFAIRS OF ITALY.

THE SICILIES.

RUMOURS from Turin, Paris, Vienna, and Berlin, are flying forth abundantly just now anent the siege of Gaeta and the fortunes of Francis II. After all, the good offices, the diplomatic intervention, or whatever may be the style and title of the action of the French Government in the premises, have produced some results. First we heard reports of an armistice, to be followed by the withdrawal of the French fleet. Next we were told the proposal had ended in nothing. Then came the positive assertion that the Pope and Admiral Le Barbier de Tinan notwithstanding, the obstructive fleet, so strangely interpolated between Italy and success, would really go. During this period Cialdini did not relax his preparations, and by dint of skill and patience obtained a very strong position. We now learn that King Francis has accepted the armistice. A telegram from Gaeta states that on the 11th the firing had been suspended on both sides until the 19th, the belligerents being only allowed to repair damages. The French fleet left Gaeta on Thursday. The *Austrian Gazette* says:—"During the last few days Russia has repeatedly dispatched notes to Paris declaring her determination not to acknowledge the blockade of Gaeta by sea under any circumstances."

At Naples Prince Carignan has issued a proclamation, intimating that his mission is to hasten the work of unification and to maintain order, and declaring that the Government will respect the Church and its ministers if the clergy themselves yield due obedience to the law. He promises administrative reforms, expresses his hope that Gaeta will speedily fall, and urges upon the Neapolitan provinces the necessity of making sacrifices in behalf of Italian unity.

There is no truth in the report that General Fanti had resigned, nor that the political committees were enrolling volunteers.

In Naples the Muratists got up another riot on Tuesday week, which was, as usual, dispersed and several arrests made. In Palermo, La Farini having ordered the arrest of Crispi, the National Guard opposed the execution of the order and compelled the Lieutenant Council to resign. All this exhibits a very unsettled state of affairs.

The Paris *Patrie* says that General Turr, after an interview with Victor Emmanuel and Count Cavour, sailed from Genoa on the 18th, on board a vessel placed at his disposal by the Sardinian Government, for Capri, in order to see Garibaldi and to endeavour to persuade him to postpone his intended attack on Venice this spring. Count Cavour, it is stated, also reckons on a majority at the coming elections, and intends to renounce the project of attacking Venice, and to ask a pacific vote from the Italian Parliament. This statement of the views of the Prime Minister is greatly confirmed by his organ, the *Opinione* of Turin, which, on the 13th, in a long article on the question of peace and war, shows that Italy is not in a condition to attack Austria, and tells the war party that if, as they say, they recognise Victor Emmanuel as their King, he alone has a right to declare war, and they have no right to drive the nation into dangers which the King wishes to avoid.

THE PAPAL STATES.

The Papal Government, in its excess of zeal for the "holy" cause of Francis II., is likely to get into difficulties with its French masters. To the demand of General Goy for explanations as to the object

of the movement of Papal troops towards the Neapolitan frontier, M. Merode has refused any reply. The French General has remitted the matter home, and waits instructions from the Emperor. On the 15th the diplomatic corps and the Papal Nuncio left Rome for Gaeta, to congratulate King Francis on his birthday, the cessation of the bombardment affording them a safe, as well as most probably the last, opportunity of paying this mark of respect to Neapolitan Royalty.

The Pope has despatched provisions to Gaeta. The reported revision of the Concordat has been denied, and it is affirmed that M. Merode, who is believed now to sway the mind of his Holiness more than Antonelli ever did, will still remain in office.

The reactionary movement in the Marches has been suppressed, but is on the increase in the Abruzzi. As the Sardinian troops are now quickly approaching the latter district the insurgents will, no doubt, be speedily dispersed.

IRELAND.

THE PAPAL BRIGADE.—A grand banquet was given to the Irish Brigade at Wexford last week. The principal speech was delivered by Major O'Reilly, who defended the brigade at great length against the attacks of some of the English newspapers.

EDUCATION IN IRELAND.—The Roman Catholic Bishops of Ireland have issued a manifesto prohibiting clerical patrons of Roman Catholic schools from sending their teachers to any of their model or training schools in connection with the National Board, and also declaring that Roman Catholic patrons will not employ in any literary capacity pupils, monitors, pupil-teachers, or teachers who may enter any of those institutions after the date of the prohibition.

THE DOUBLE MURDER AT MONAGHAN.—Three persons are now in custody charged with having taken part in the commission of the dreadful crime—William Shaw, brother of the deceased; Thomas McNiece, their nephew, who lived in the house with William Shaw; and Richard Jackson, the only evidence as yet against whom is, that one of the witnesses believes that it was his voice he heard calling at the door of the deceased on the night of the murder.

SCOTLAND.

DISTRESS IN SCOTLAND.—The social condition of the peasantry in some of the rural districts of Scotland is so deplorable that the necessity for adopting some remedial measures is forcing itself upon public attention. A great meeting has been held in Edinburgh to take this subject into consideration. Some of the statements which were made were of a very painful character, and they all tended to show that, owing to the want of proper cottage accommodation, and to other causes, a state of suffering and immorality existed among the rural population which called loudly for redress.

THE ICE ON THE CLYDE.—On Saturday morning the Clyde exhibited a miniature St. Lawrence "break up." It was a very grand sight. It had one grand drawback, however—much damage was done to the shipping in the harbour and considerable injury to one of the quays. In fact, the harbour on Saturday presented the appearance of a port of refuge and refitting after a storm, there being so many ships in a disabled condition. The "oldest inhabitant" cannot recall any occasion on which such havoc was committed among shipping, or when such huge masses of ice floated down the Clyde. Some of these pieces were 18 and 20 inches thick, and a couple of yards square.

THE COTTON TRADE.—Last year was a remarkable year for the cotton trade. The imports exceeded in amount to any yet recorded; the consumption was proportionately large; and the stocks in hand at the close of 1860 were still considerable. The weekly consumption of the kingdom was probably about 48,000 bales. Of these, 41,000, as nearly as possible, came from the United States, about 2000 from Brazil, 1800 from Egypt and the West Indies, and 3200 from India. America sends us six-sevenths of our entire receipts, and maintains this vast supply so well and so successfully that the market is all her own.

THE PROVINCES.

THE HETTON COLLIERY EXPLOSION.—The investigation by the Coroner into the cause of the explosion at Hetton Colliery, by which the lives of twenty-two men were sacrificed, has been brought to a close. Every exertion appears to have been made to ascertain the origin of the accident; but in all such cases there is necessarily so much obscurity involved in the circumstances that little information can be had of a satisfactory character. In this instance it would seem that there was a peculiarity about this catastrophe distinguishing it from the general run of coal-pit accidents, inasmuch as the explosive gas was generated in the flue of one of the furnaces employed in ventilating the mine. A verdict in accordance with this testimony was returned.

THE CORONER AT PLYMOUTH.—A collision has taken place between the magistrates of the borough of Plymouth and the Coroner, Mr. John Edmonds, in consequence of the proceedings connected with the Plymouth murder. When the death was first reported to the Coroner he gave instructions for the apprehension of Robert Hacked by the police, and the latter was then removed from the barracks to the Townhall. The magistrates subsequently took the matter into their own hands, and declined to hand over the prisoner to the Coroner, who has intimated that, in consequence of what had taken place, he had determined to resign his office. Hacked has been committed for trial.

CONFLICT WITH A TIGRESS.—The *Liverpool Mercury* has the following story:—"On Friday morning, whilst Maccombe was going through his performance with the Bengal tigers at Mander's Menagerie, a tigress caught his hand in her mouth. Never were coolness and nerve displayed to greater perfection by any man than were shown by Maccombe at this juncture, for, planting his knee in the small of the tigress's back, and pressing her against the bars of the cage, then seizing her lower jaw with the right hand, he held her powerless to do more than retain the left hand in her mouth. So cool was Maccombe in this trying position that lockers on thought it part of his performance; but when Maccombe called to one of the keepers: 'She has got my hand fast in her mouth; get a bar of hot iron!' the truth of his dangerous position flashed through the minds of those present, and created the greatest excitement—one lady fainting away, others running from the painful sight. Four or five minutes elapsed before the iron was ready, during which time Maccombe stood as a piece of statuary, not a quiver of lip to show the pain he was enduring. When ready, the hot iron was applied quickly and surely by one of the keepers to one of the large teeth in the upper jaw, and, as through she had been electrified, her mouth sprang open. Maccombe, quick as lightning, drew his hand away, caught hold of a thick stick, struck the treacherous animal a terrific blow on the skull, brought her down, and forced her to finish her performance before he left the stage. When Maccombe came out of the cage his bleeding hand testified to the frightful struggle which had been going on between man and beast."

COLLIERY ACCIDENT.—A dreadful colliery accident took place a few days ago in a coal-pit near Brownhill, in Staffordshire, unhappily causing the death of six men. In this case the accident was occasioned by the ignition of the coal in the pit, thereby suffocating the men who were at work. A Government inquiry will be instituted into the cause of this extraordinary catastrophe.

FORTY MEN LOST IN THE SNOW.—Perhaps no severer weather was ever experienced on the Yorkshire moors than that which prevailed during the greater part of last week. The snowdrifts were continuous and heavy, attended with thunder, and in some of the valleys the drifts of snow were twenty feet deep. All traffic was stopped, the partridges and grouse were driven off the moors by snow, and rickled up in the streets of the town half dead with cold and hunger. Vast numbers of crows and other birds have been found starved to death. The works of the Rosedale Railway, now in course of formation, have been entirely suspended, and the labourers reduced to great distress. Forty of these men were driven from the works to seek shelter at the Eklut Hut, on the bleak moors, where, it appears, they were snowed up and could not escape. Their continued absence caused a search-party to be sent off over the stormy moors, and by dint of labour a passage was made to the huts, when, on the door being forced, the men were found in a very exhausted condition. They had been prisoners two days and nights.

A PLUMP LIVING.—The vicarage of Sutton, in the diocese of Ely, has become vacant by the death of the Rev. T. Fardell. The benefice, which is the gift of the Dean and Chapter of Ely, is a valuable one, being worth £1215 a year. The benefices are many of them extremely augmented in value by the drainage and agricultural cultivation of the district. At Dodington, for instance, the tithes produce £3000 a year, while Sheffield has no more than one church for every 5000 souls; and Hull but one church for every 5500; Middlesbrough only one church for 10,000; and Macclesfield no church at all for a population of many thousands.

THE GARRISONS OF MALTA AND CORFU have been increased, according to the *Patrie*, to twice their strength. By the same journal it is stated that the British squadron in the Mediterranean is to be reinforced.

AN IMPORTANT MOVEMENT is now being organised in London with a view to enforce the provisions of the Act for the prevention of the adulteration of food and drink which was passed during the last Session.

TREATY BETWEEN RUSSIA AND CHINA.

The *St. Petersburg Gazette* publishes the text of a treaty concluded at Peking on the 14th of November last between Russia and China. It was ratified at St. Petersburg on the 1st of January, 1861, by the Emperor. General Ignatieff acted for Russia, and Prince Kung for China.

By this treaty the frontiers are readjusted, and it is enacted that trade shall be free of all duties and restrictions along the frontier line. Russian merchants are to "enjoy their former privilege of going from Kiakhta to Peking on commercial business." On their way they are also allowed to trade at Ourga and Kalgan, without, however, being obliged to maintain large commercial establishments there. The Russian Government will have the right of keeping a Consul at Ourga, with suite, and of erecting a building there for that purpose. The Chinese merchants are equally authorised to enter Russia to trade, if so inclined. Russian merchants are to have the right to travel in China at all times on commercial business, but they must not congregate together in a greater number than 200 in the same locality. Commercial disputes will be settled by the merchants themselves before a Court of Arbitration, the members of which will be selected by the parties concerned. Disputes which do not come under the head of "commercial transactions," as lawsuits, complaints, &c., will be settled by mutual consent of the Consul and chief local authority, and the delinquents punished according to the law of their own country.

Art. 12 settles the postal arrangements between the two empires. Letters and parcels from Kiakhta to Peking and vice versa are to leave as follows:—Letters once a month from either point; parcels once every two months from Kiakhta for Peking, and once every three months from Peking to Kiakhta. Twenty days are allowed for the transmission of letters; forty days at the outside for parcels. Should the merchants deem it advisable to establish a postal communication of their own, they are at liberty to do so at their own cost and risk, by notifying their intention to the respective authorities. During the sojourn of the Russian Envoys at Peking, despatches of special importance may be forwarded by a Russian functionary expressly appointed for such service. Russian couriers may not be stopped or delayed by any one whomsoever.

ENTRY OF THE ALLIED TROOPS INTO PEKIN.

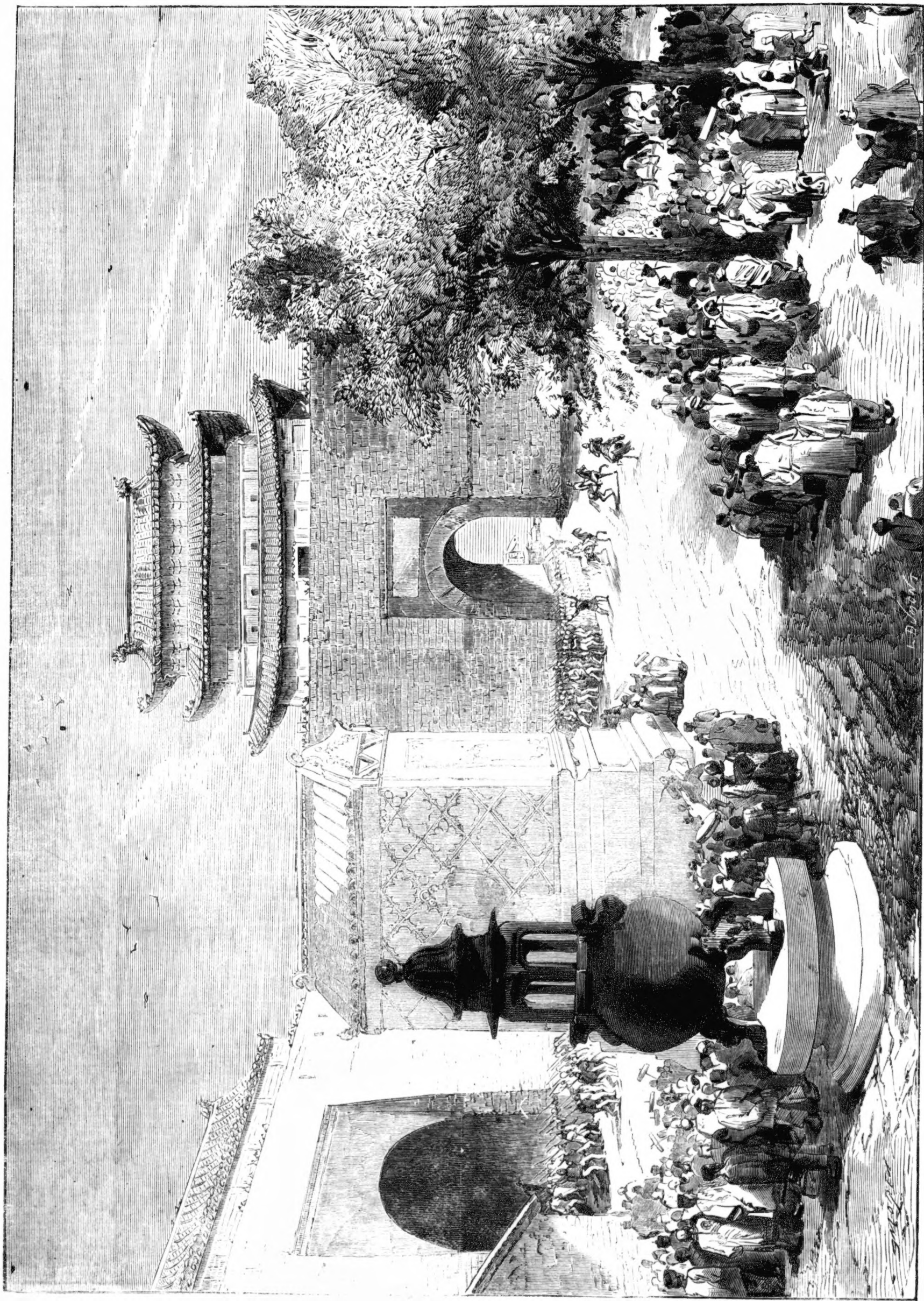
At the beginning of October there arrived news that an earth-work had been captured from the Tartar troops near Peking, and immediately afterwards the instructions were given for an attack on the city, which on the 13th was occupied by the French and English troops, who shouted their national cries, and marched to their national music, into that extraordinary city which, having been mystically concealed for ages from the profaning foot of the outer barbarian, is at last found to be but a miserable half-savage settlement, with a teeming population who had always been subject to the most abject poverty, if the Imperial need demanded it. On the occasion in which the European army was introduced to their wondering eyes the crowd of Chinese was every now and then ornamented by the presence of a mandarin, whose gold, white, blue, or red button enforced the respect which was already insisted on by the police-agents who still moved hither and thither amongst the people. Peking itself was delivered up to the allies without much trouble, and before the complete entry of the troops many of them were quartered on the wall during the time of taking possession of the gates of "Tranquillity," for such was its Chinese name. That the Chinese were so ready to deliver up the Imperial city may be attributed to the fact that the Summer Palace of the Emperor (Yung-min-yung) had already been taken on the 6th, and its contents given up to the pillaging of the troops.

The gate at which the troops entered is an immense piece of building, something like the city wall in construction, and surmounted by a gun of large calibre, the fortification consisting of a brick casing strengthened by large stones. With respect to the Imperial palace, an eyewitness says it would be impossible adequately to convey any idea of its quaint luxury and magnificence. After having traversed the first palace, a building occupied almost exclusively by the throne-room, an ancient apartment of much greater simplicity than was expected, the visitor arrived at an immense park admirably planted, and revealing watercourses, lakes, kiosks, and pagodas in every variety, while no fewer than thirty buildings at some distance from each other formed the palace, or suite of palaces, of which the one painted red (that peculiar lake-colour of the Chinese) was the indubitable residence of the Brother to the Sun and Moon. All the exterior walls were of this colour, but adorned with gold ornament and rich fantastic carving. It is here that the Celestial Emperor has collected his magnificent treasures of art, his suites of porcelain, his flowered vases, his ornaments made of jade-stone, ivory carvings, watches, clocks, and tobacco-jars, all the work of years, and of immense value. Above all these, the collection of gems, the ingots of gold and silver, the two gold walking-sticks, which are said to be used by his late Majesty; the two necklaces of exquisite pearls, the golden sceptre, and the diamond-mounted watch—all these treasures were looted by the soldiers. The amount of property destroyed, though not equal to that which was taken, was, notwithstanding, considerable. A party of soldiers in the afternoon of the day after the sacking armed themselves with heavy clubs, and, entering the Summer Palace, went into all the apartments, smashing mirrors, screens, panels, and everything that remained. This was in revenge for the barbarous treatment the prisoners received who had been so treacherously captured and cruelly tortured by the Chinese. Within the palace were found many pictures, portraits of the time of Louis XIV., and several pieces of Sevres china.

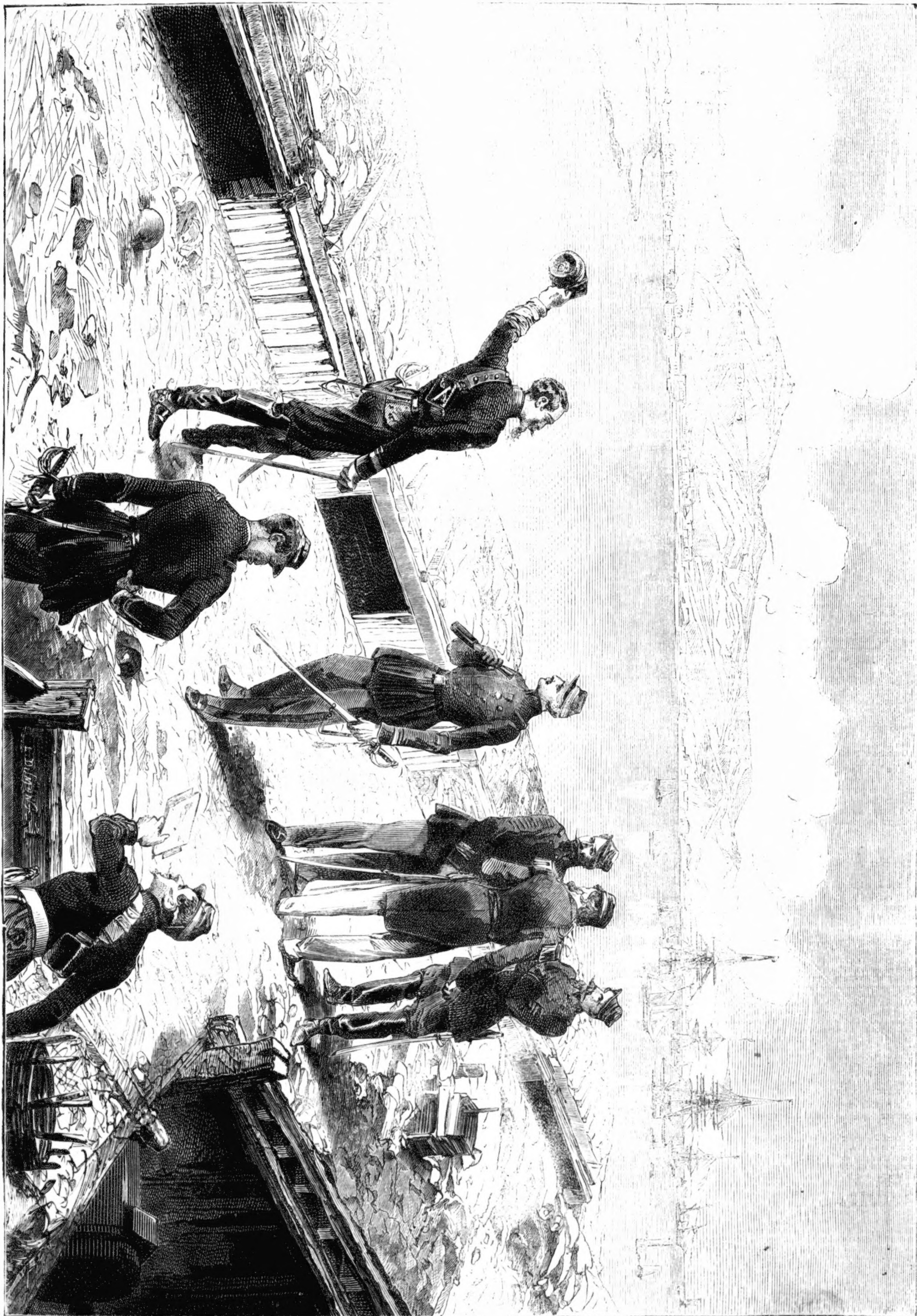
FRENCH WAR PREPARATIONS.—The *Havre* journals say:—"There is a talk of experiments lately made at Cherbourg with a new sort of *arbal* invented by the Emperor. A new steel cannon of extremely long range, also invented by the Emperor, is spoken of. It has been already stated that four new iron-cased frigates have been put on the stocks to complete the Emperor's programme, it being his intention to have twenty iron-cased frigates at sea this year. At the present moment there are six afloat, ten are just ready for launching, and the four above mentioned will make up the number."

PRIESTS IN AUSTRIA.—"If a man talks to a Roman Catholic priest on the subject of auricular confession," says a letter from Vienna, "he is almost sure to be told that the secrets of the confessional are never divulged; but the Ultramontane *Volkstheuer* has just made a statement which is calculated to excite suspicions in the minds of all Austrian Catholics. The organ of the Cardinal Archbishop of Vienna states that every priest in Austria has to take the following oath, and to deliver a copy of it, with his signature attached thereto, to the Government:—"I do swear and vow, on and by the Holy Gospels, to be able to and to obey his Majesty the Emperor Francis Joseph I. I promise not to entertain any secret relations either in or out of the Imperial Royal States, and I also promise neither to share in any consultation nor to be present at any assembly which could be dangerous to the public peace. And I at the same time pledge myself to communicate to the Government everything which I may learn in my parish, should it appear to me to be injurious to the State."

MORE IRON-CASED WAR SHIPS.—The *Globe* announces that "the Admiralty have decided upon increasing without further delay the number of our iron-cased steam men-of-war, and letters were sent out on Saturday from Whitehall calling upon Messrs. Napier, Laird, Scott Russell, May, Samuda, Palmer, Westwood and Co., and the Thames Ship Building Company, to send in tenders by the 24th instant for building two ships of about 4000 tons each. The vessels are to be very similar in construction to the *Itan* and *Dandolo*, now nearly complete. They are to be 250 feet long, 50 feet broad, and plated with iron slabs fore and aft. The singular principle will not be adopted in this instance, notwithstanding all that has been done and said upon the subject. We, however, infer from inquiries which we have made that the question is still a moot one with the officers of the Comptroller's Department, and that consequently the instalment made to our iron navy is at present only a small one. The report made by Captain Hewlett, of the *Excellent*, last August, was, we are informed, decidedly favourable to Mr. Jones's invention; and he is supported in his statement by the openly-expressed opinion of all the principal scientific officers in the Royal Navy."



ENTRY OF THE ALLIED TROOPS INTO PEKIN BY THE TRANQUILLITY GATE.



SIEGE OF GAETA: THE KING OF NAPLES EXAMINING FROM THE SWISS BATTERY THE PIEDMONTSE WORKS AT BORGO AND SANTA AGATA.—(FROM A SKETCH BY COLONEL D'ECHEVILLER.)

FRANCIS II. WATCHING THE PIEDMONTSE WORKS.

Now that the armistice has been accepted, and it is settled that the French fleet shall leave the waters of Gaeta, the works which have been carried on at the Mola di Gaeta will cease to make Francis II. uneasy, and even the contiguity of the formidable Piedmontese Bersagliari, who have taken up such an advanced outpost at Santa Agata, will for a time excite no such dread as must have been experienced while their batteries from the old monastery were sending shell over the town.

The siege of Gaeta has been a strange, lingering, monotonous ending of a war which once outstripped any means of recording its rapid and brilliant successes. From the first note of gathering which sounded in Sicily to the struggle of Garibaldi and his followers in Santa Maria the history of the War of Liberation has been a series of brilliant events such as the world has seldom seen, while over this little stronghold of Gaeta there have been consumed long, dreary weeks. In Gaeta itself all amusements, and it may be supposed well-nigh all cheerfulness, were abandoned while the shot from the batteries of Borgho and on the Mount of Santa Agata came hurtling up to the very chambers of the King himself. It was these works which engaged the earnest attention of Francis II.; and, while the Queen visited the Neapolitan artillerymen and endeavoured to inspire them with fresh courage, her husband would stand amongst the officers of his Swiss battery and endeavour to discover the advances made by the indomitable Piedmontese on the opposite hills.

THE LATE KING OF PRUSSIA.

We read in the *Prussian Gazette*:—"It will be a consolation to my people, in their just sorrow on account of the decease of the King, my beloved brother, to know the good thoughts and desires which he wrote with his own hand, in contemplation of death. Accordingly, I desire that these last wishes, dated Aug. 6, 1851, should be immediately made public."

The Royal document which is referred to in the preceding note is as follows:—

Charlottenburg, the day of the Transfiguration
of our Lord Jesus Christ, Aug. 6, 1851.

HOW I WISH TO BE INTERRED.

If God the Lord decree that I terminate my terrestrial career peacefully in my country, and if, which I fervently entreat of Him on my knees, my tender and beloved Elise shall survive me, this paper is to be delivered to her immediately after my death. Whatever she shall change shall be executed as if that were written here; her order shall be mine. Moreover, I wish one day to repose by her side, in the same tomb, as near to her as possible.

As soon as my decease shall have been certified by the physicians, I wish my body to be washed and opened. My heart, deposited in a large heart formed of granite from the country of Marche, and placed at the entrance of the vault in the mausoleum of Charlottenburg (and consequently at the feet of my Royal parents), shall be inclosed in the ground and covered by it. My resting-place shall be the Church of Peace, before the steps which lead to the holy table, between the marble pulpit and the commencement of the seats, on the left (on the right of the altar) of the line of the middle of the body of the church in such a manner that one day the Queen may repose on my right. The space indicated in all its breadth from our church seat as far as those opposite, as well as the intervals between the public seats up to the pillars of the choir, shall be paved afresh in marble, from the funds which I shall leave, in the simplest manner, but in harmony with the floor and with the holy table. Immediately above my tomb shall be placed an oblong slab of white marble, flat, level with the pavement of the church, and similar to the two slabs of the mausoleum of Charlottenburg. There shall be engraved upon it the monogram of Christ, with the following inscription:—

"Here lies in God his Saviour, with the hope of a blissful resurrection and of a merciful judgment, depending solely on the merits of Jesus Christ our Divine Redeemer, the late," &c.

At my interment there shall be observed the same ceremony as that used for the King my deceased father. The funeral shall take place at the Cathedral of Berlin if I die in the neighbourhood of Berlin; but if I die in the vicinity of Potsdam it shall be solemnised in the Church of Peace, near Sans Souci.

As soon as the termination of my life shall have been ascertained by the physicians, there shall be sent 150 thalers of gold to the poor of the cathedral, in accordance with my own custom every time that I receive the holy sacrament at Easter. The same sum shall also be placed at the disposal of the other churches where I have communicated for their poor—that is to say, the Church of Peace, the parish church of Erdmendorf, the cathedral church of Spandau, the Evangelical church of Fischbach, and the church of the Oratoire of Paris.

"The late King," says a Berlin letter, "has not left any private fortune in money, having expended his income not only in benevolent acts, but in purchasing works of art and a magnificent library. The property left consists of a great number of artistic masterpieces and the library, all of which go to the present Monarch. The Queen Dowager is to have a jointure of 300,000 thalers per annum."

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

LETTERS from Jassy of the 31st ult. give the speech pronounced in the Chamber by the Minister Cogalniceanu on the seizure of arms and the demands of Austria:—

Our determination is that we remain masters on our own soil, not meddling with the affairs of others, and not suffering others to meddle with ours. Our soil shall not cease to be a hospitable one. Political exiles of all denominations, as long as they respect the laws of Roumania, shall be inviolable here; but they must abstain from all revolutionary efforts.

As to facts, let me state them. Some time since five vessels, under an Italian flag, entered the Sulina mouth of the Danube. Three of them were seized by the Ottoman authorities, and found to contain arms. The two others escaped up the river, and landed a similar cargo at Galatz. As soon as we were informed of the circumstances we ordered the sequestration of these cargoes, as contraband of war, and the chests containing the arms are now in the barracks of Galatz, under the guard of the 10th Regiment.

About the same time a certain number of Hungarians crossed the Carpathian mountains, some of them belonging to the most noble families of Hungary. The report ran that we were about to form these newcomers into a legion. It is completely false. Not more than sixty Hungarians in all have come here by Bukin, and some by Fokany. There are about twenty at Galatz. Austria has sent to demand their extradition. This we shall never consent to. These persons are political refugees. They came to demand hospitality, and shall receive it, as we have before received similar protection. We have replied to Austria, that the land of the Roumans is one of hospitality and neutrality. It is a principle which we received from our parents, and shall hand down to our children.

After this speech, which was enthusiastically received, the Chamber separated till the new year.

PRINCE JOACHIM MURAT has returned to Paris from his mission of condolence to Berlin.

THE MARQUIS OF DOWNSHIRE has declared in the newspapers that the story known as the "Syphilis Scandal" is "a wilful and deliberate lie; and the person who wrote it, whether he is an Englishman or a foreigner, is a wilful liar and slanderer, and whom I will punish, if I can discover him, by all the means which the law will give me."

THE PROGRESS OF NEW ZEALAND.—The *Blue-book*, known as the annual statement of the trade and navigation of the United Kingdom with foreign countries and British possessions in the year 1859, furnishes us with statistics which show the rapid progress of New Zealand. In 1855 we imported 358,493 lb. of wool, whereas in 1859 we imported 4,060,566 lb. In 1856 we imported two tons of copper ore, while in 1859 455 tons were imported. There has been a similar increase in other articles. The exports show also a marked increase. In 1855 we exported 3695 barrels of beer and ale, while in 1859 9525 barrels were exported. This, together with the statistics of spirits, shows at least that all the colonists are not teetotallers. Of printed books we exported, in 1855, 325 cwt.; while in 1859 there were 650 cwt. An increase certainly, but not in the same ratio as the spirits. In woollens, by the yard, 75,653 yards; while in 1859, 207,274 yards. The declared real values exported during 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858, and 1859 are, respectively, £248,469, £257,634, £364,450, £440,565, and £632,907. *New Zealand Economist.*

THE EXCELLENCE CHORUS and some of the members of the orchestra of Covent-garden Theatre stopped together at the Wren Tavern, Bow-street, on Tuesday. During the evening a project to establish a fund to relieve distressed artists of their body was discussed and agreed to.

THE NEW ZEALAND CONFLICT.

WE have now considerable amount of information on the "battle of Mahoeahi," fought by the British forces under General Pratt and the natives of New Zealand on the 6th of November.

The brief statement in the telegraphic despatch which we published last week only conveyed the fact that a victory had been won. We now know who were our adversaries. During the whole period of the contest with William King the powerful tribe of the Waikatos have been very uneasy. A strong party, that which favoured the Maori King movement, and set up the son of Potatau I. as Potatau II., desired to give armed assistance to the Taranaki rebels. Indeed, from the first King was assisted by Waikatos. These had secured much plunder in the marauding expeditions of the bands who so long kept Colonel Gold at bay, including the arms and accoutrements of some of our soldiers. Returning home when King's force broke up in September "to plant," the Waikato heroes exhibited their spoils, and the people of Auckland were painfully aware of the ferment that these trophies excited. The usual result followed. Fresh bands of Waikatos determined to go to the Taranaki country, and share in the good things and the glory to be obtained there. Their leader was Wetini Taiporutu, "the leading chief of the Maori King movement." The spirit in which he advanced is shown in an "insulting letter" sent, on the 1st of November, by himself and other chiefs, to the English. "Come to fight me! that is very good; come inland and let us meet each other. Fish fight at sea—come inland and stand on our feet. Make haste, make haste; don't prolong it."

Aware of the march of the Waikatos to join the diminished forces of William King, General Pratt was on the alert; and on the 5th it was ascertained by the troops at Puketakauere, on the Waitara, that the Waikatos had crossed the river. A working party engaged in bridging a swamp lying between Waitara and Mahoeahi were fired on by natives who had stealthily crept within range; but the fire, which revealed the presence of the enemy, did not interrupt the work, and the bridge was finished before the party marched back to the camp. The intelligence was sent on to Taranaki, and General Pratt, judging that he should fall in with the enemy's column, marching to effect its junction with William King, in the position of Mahoeahi, directed a force on that point from Taranaki, and ordered the troops at Puketakauere to move at the same time, so that the natives might be assailed in front and flank. The combined movement was effectually executed. General Pratt, with 600 men, marched out of Taranaki on the morning of the 6th. Approaching Mahoeahi, he found the Waikatos in possession of the hill, occupying an old intrenchment on its crest, fortified in the native fashion; while another body—one report says the main body—lay concealed in a raupo swamp on the inland side of the intrenchment. The British attacked from the seaward face—the 65th and volunteers skirmishing up to the enemy, and then carrying the position by the bayonet. The natives driven out of the intrenchment found shelter in the swamp, and thence sustained the action. In the heat of the engagement the force from Waitara, having forded the Waiongona, appeared on the flank of the natives, and in the cross fire of the two divisions of our force some of our men were wounded. The soldiers now closed with the enemy, and "the bayonet" and "the butt of the rifle" played a conspicuous part in the exciting scene. Under a heavy fire from all sides the natives fled along the only line of retreat open to them, "the road leading to Huirangi," and crossed at the Waiongona ford. They threw away arms, ammunition, and clothing, and the wounded were seen painfully climbing the river's bank to fall among the tall fern. Three chiefs and twenty-eight men are known to have been killed. The whole loss of the enemy is estimated at from eighty to one hundred in killed and wounded. Among the slain chiefs was Wetini Taiporutu, the man who sent the challenge to Mr. Parris. Five wounded men were captured and one unwounded. Our loss was four killed—two soldiers and two volunteers—and sixteen wounded, including two officers, Captain Turner and Colonel Sillery. General Pratt is admitted to have been "in the front of the battle;" the other hero of the fight is Major Nelson, of the 40th. It is satisfactory that in this engagement the rifle and the bayonet, the individual prowess of the regular and volunteer, carried the day; and that the artillery, though judiciously used, played a secondary part. Some such lesson was needed, for the natives were beginning to entertain a contempt for both regulars and volunteers.

William King is said to have been only five miles from the field of conflict, but he did not assist his northern allies. Will this supineness bring him into trouble, and lead to a quarrel between himself and the Waikatos? A more serious question is, what will be the effect of the victory on the Waikatos themselves? That the whole Waikato tribes are in a state of political agitation is apparent from the painful fact that Governor Browne had withdrawn 400 men from Taranaki to defend Auckland from an expected attack by these very Waikatos. It is, therefore, possible that the Waikatos may go to war on their own account, and that the next mail will bring news of an extension of the conflict.

GREAT FLOODS IN HOLLAND.—The great enemy of Holland—water—has again put forth its strength and broken down the dams which protected households and farms from its devastations. The enormous masses of snow which have lately fallen have swollen the rivers to a fearful extent, and the streams, impeded in their course by vast accumulations of ice, have burst their artificial barriers and swept away houses, trees, and cattle. The wretched inhabitants of the inundated districts, driven from their homes naked and foodless in this inclement season, are in a state of destitution scarcely conceivable. The undrowned cattle have collected in the higher localities, whence it is impossible to rescue them, so that they remain within the narrow compass of a dam-top till, stiffened with cold, they drop dead. Liberal subscriptions are pouring in from all parts of the country for the relief of the sufferers.

INUNDATIONS IN SPAIN.—New inundations are reported from Spain. In the neighbourhood of Tudela, in the province of Valladolid, as many as 300 houses had been swept away by the waters, and vast stores of wine, which constituted the principal wealth of the inhabitants, had been destroyed. Houses in wood were being constructed hastily to receive the sufferers. In the province of Zamora, also, there were inundations, and rain at the last date was falling heavily. The inhabitants of the districts of Paleagouza and Villalaza had been obliged to abandon their villages to seek refuge in towns.

THE SISTERS' MEMORIAL LIFE-BOAT.—The National Life-boat Institution has just sent one of its best double-banked life-boats, accompanied by a transporting-carriage, to Llandudno, near Liverpool. The boat is 32 feet long, 8 feet wide, and rows ten oars. She is a sister boat of the Percy, Cultercoats, life-boat belonging to this institution, which on New-Year's Day did such noble service on the Northumberland coast. The cost (£200) of the life-boat and her equipments was the gift of two benevolent ladies resident in Liverpool, in memory of a departed sister, and the boat itself is named "The Sisters' Memorial." A commodious and substantial house has been built for the reception of the life-boat, her stores, and carriage. A free conveyance was given, as usual, to the life-boat and carriage by the directors of the London and North-Western Railway Company. On Tuesday last the life-boat was publicly launched at Llandudno.

CARDINAL WISEMAN AND THE POPE.—The *Saturday Review*, after stating that Mr. Pope Hennessy, M.P., has arrived in Rome as the bearer of papers conveying a pledge on the part of the Roman Catholics of the United Kingdom to pay a yearly tribute of one million Roman dollars to the Pope, proceeds to say that Cardinal Wiseman, on the other hand, has written an epistle to the Holy Father expressing his grief that, in spite of the most zealous efforts to exact contributions, he has met with very imperfect success. "The Cardinal states that he has received everywhere plentiful assurances of readiness to contribute towards the support of the Pope's spiritual dignity, but strong expressions of indisposition to expend money upon armaments for the political enthrallment of his subjects. A conscientious sense of duty has accordingly impelled Cardinal Wiseman to represent to his Holiness that the Catholics in this kingdom cannot be brought to support the Pope in his struggle for temporal power in the manner that might have been hoped; that the majority have been unfortunately infected with the peculiar political notions current in this country; and that he finds himself bound respectfully to tender to his Holiness the melancholy advice that his interests, in the sad condition of affairs, would be best consulted by coming to an understanding with Victor Emmanuel."

THE CHORUS TO "DON JUAN."

THE following address, signed by several thousand persons, has just been sent to Prince Don Juan at London, congratulating him on the liberal principles he has recently manifested in the various documents by which he has endeavoured to uphold his claims to the Spanish crown, more especially on his principles respecting religious liberty:—

The undersigned Spaniards, all of them residing in the Peninsula, respectfully address your Highness to say to you, that if in former days, in consequence of political vicissitudes, your father was exiled from his country, they entertain the conviction that justice and good sense are opposed to your being made responsible for the political errors of your ancestors.

Your uncle Ferdinand VII. performed many more acts of adhesion than your father to a system that cannot in future be resuscitated, and yet political circumstances place his daughter, Isabella II., under the necessity of lending herself to represent upon the throne the liberal principles which the nation proclaimed, using its rights of sovereignty.

We ourselves had fathers and forefathers who professed the same doctrines that yours did, and yet, while adding on their tombs a tear of grief and respect, we are ready to shed all our blood for the defence of the country and of the free ideas of our epoch.

The partisans of Isabella of Bourbon, married to a Bourbon, not knowing what to accuse you of, make your family name a crime on your part. Foolish inconsistency! As if your name bound you to a determinate system of ideas. We do not share this vulgar prejudice, and believe, on the contrary, that it is a glory for you, the first of the Bourbons who rejects the errors and traditions of your family, to have frankly and spontaneously acknowledged the principle of national sovereignty as the fundamental basis of all power and all government.

We congratulate you upon this with all our hearts. Knowing the proud and chivalrous character of the Spanish people, you will easily comprehend that flattery and adulation do not dictate our language. The undersigned live independently by their labour, trade, and industry; they are strangers to the employments of the State or intrigues of the palace. We all pay our taxes, and expect from you nothing but the liberty and prosperity of our country. We have no ambition for any other reward.

The motive inspiring us to-day to express to you our sentiments of respect is the desire to proclaim religious freedom, a venerable monument that reason erects to the natural law of liberty of conscience.

This principle is excluded from Spain, whilst it is accepted by all civilised nations—much more, under the protection of Queen Isabella, they are organising and multiplying without end fresh nunneries; and thus, by exercising an exclusive influence over the education of young females, they would draw Spain gradually into the most horrible periods of fanaticism and the Inquisition.

The freedom of religious worship proclaimed by you would exercise a beneficial influence, not only politically but socially. Wealthy foreigners, kept away at this moment from Spain by religious apprehensions, would soon be sure to come and enrich us with their ideas, knowledge, and capital.

We can give you the assurance, Prince, that our sentiments are entertained by the immense majority of the Spanish people; thousands of persons in every class and condition of life have declared their loyal adoption of them; and this address would be covered with a far larger number of signatures if circumstances, easily conjectured, did not oblige many to abstain from all manifestation of too solemn a kind.

May Heaven protect you and strengthen you in the generous ideas you profess!

AN ULTRAMONTANE PAMPHLET.

A PAMPHLET entitled "Un Schisme et l'Honneur" has been published in Paris; the author is the Marquis de Larochefoucauld. His object is to show that the ruin of the Catholic Church is the object of the movement in Italy; that "Italy is advancing to a schism, to a national Church, with Victor Emmanuel for Pope, M. Cavour as first Cardinal Minister, and Garibaldi as Private Chamberlain. And France," he continues,

is expected to follow the movement. The Emperor Napoleon must become the *Apostate*, call himself Vicar of our Lord on earth, and all Kings must convince us that they are the successors of the Apostles, uniting the spiritual and temporal powers to bind and loose on earth; for unity in the Catholic faith will not exist the day the spiritual chief has no longer authority over every will and every belief of the same religion. It means simply that the Catholic religion is to be effaced from the world.

M. Larochefoucauld concludes as follows:—

France must on no account consent to the abandonment of Rome; with all that has been done, said, or written, with all the projects that are avowed, the consciences of Catholics, justly alarmed, must be reassured by an energetic manifestation.

France must keep her fleet at Gaeta, and, for the honour of the Emperor, from the respect for his crown, she cannot abandon the attitude, passive, it is true, but the only monarchical attitude which can be now maintained in presence of the heroism of a King (the King of Naples).

A European Congress should meet to save Europe from a general conflagration, which the *Revolution-Government* is preparing, and which it will cause to explode sooner than the inexperience or the lassitude of political men seems to perceive. To wait until events, which are hurrying on, render a Congress impossible by the endangering the rights of almost all the Powers, is to invite war, not to avoid it, and to break with all that is conservative in Europe, in order to follow the policy professed by all the men and all the journals of the revolution.

In France, as in all Monarchies, there are two parties which divide the men of the Government—the one monarchical and religious, the other which is less so. I belong to the former.

It is too much for a sincere and loyal devotedness to see France herself exposed to menaces which wound all her patriotic, religious, and monarchical sentiments. It is too much not to signalise the evil and the dangers in opposition to those who occasion them, or who encourage them with the blind, the timid, or indifferent.

HARROWING SCENE.—A boat having got loose from the coast brigade dépôt at Milford Haven, gunner Burke dashed in after it, one of his comrades holding a rope which was tied round his waist; but the rope, being too short, had to be pieced. The tide carried Burke under the boat, and he called out to be hauled ashore. Unfortunately, the rope broke, and Burke was drifted away, calling in vain for help. His wife and his three children were spectators, and added to the horrors of the scene by their shrieks. Another gunner, named Kay, boldly dashed into the sea to Burke's rescue, but was dashed ashore again, nearly dead. The moment he recovered his consciousness he endeavoured to jump in again, but was restrained by his comrades, who informed him that poor Burke had just sunk between two seas. The latter rose to the surface shortly afterwards quite dead, the back of his head and shoulders being visible over the water. At this moment a large seagull perched on the body and commenced picking at the head. Thus the body of the drowned soldier, with its lonely freight, remained in sight for nearly two hours, and was gradually drifted out to sea, and lost to the bewildered gaze of the widow and her orphans.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP CAMILLA.—From the accounts received at the Admiralty by the last China mail, there seems to be little doubt that her Majesty's ship Camilla must have foundered at sea. It appears that she left Hakodadi on the 1st of September, for Kanagawa, the port of Jeddo, and that between that day and the 9th of September, the day on which the heavy gale passed over Jeddo, light southerly winds prevailed, so that she had not probably made much progress to the south when lost. Her Majesty's steam-vessel *Berenice*, of the Indian Navy, proceeded along the coast from Kanagawa to Hakodadi and back between the 24th of September and 11th of October, but failed in procuring any intelligence of the Camilla from the numerous fishing-boats, or in discovering any portion of the wreck. A report had reached Vice-Admiral Hope that the unfortunate vessel was seen from a Prussian vessel-of-war to strike on a rock in a fresh breeze and go down. This report would be traced to its source, but the Admiralty is firmly convinced that she foundered at sea in the typhoon which prevailed on the Japanese coast on the 9th of September.

THE ARMSTRONG GUN.—During the last few days a series of experiments have been made in the presence of the Select Committee of Woolwich Arsenal with the 100-pounder Armstrong gun at Shoeburyness. The experiments are reported satisfactory. A ship's side, partially covered with massive iron plates, was set up at a thousand yards distance to form the butt. The shells, filled with powder, were fired at patches of white paper stuck upon the surface. The spots were 12 inches in diameter, and in every case the shell went through the mark, while the instantaneous ignition of the powder made a hole in the timber in the form of a huge doorway. At the conclusion the experimental gun was found to be as perfect as when the trials commenced. By the late improvement in the breech there was no escape nor leakage of gas from the explosion, to test the fact of which the committee several times filled the cavity with snow, and, after the gun was fired, the snow had not the slightest discolouration.

A SOMEWHAT CURIOUS COINCIDENCE is observable in the mortality returns for the metropolis of the last two weeks, the number of deaths registered being precisely the same in both, that is 1707. This return proves the large excess of 342 deaths over the average.

Literature.

The Conduct of Life. By RALPH WALDO EMERSON, Author of "Representative Men," "Traits of English Life," &c. London, Smith, Elder, and Co.

This work has a thorough didactic character, not often matched at the present day, among those of regular men of letters. It is didactic beyond the author's "Essays," which were more professedly expressions of private sentiments and humours—beyond many popular works among us, in which the moral, however emphatic, is enlivened by deliberate satire, fictitious narrative, or a biography accommodated to casuistic doctrines. Now, it must be allowed that a sober discussion upon moral taste and prudence, thus abstractly handled, supplies but a narrow field for even a clever writer to say things new and also true upon; in the judgment, perhaps, of those who read invidiously (as who likes admonition?), without the reverence yielded to constituted teachers, and with a suspicion, if they hear more than has been ascertained of old, that the moralist can have scarcely aught else in view than to enhance the virtues and attenuate the faults which he is himself most easily inclined to. Mr. Emerson's method seems happily fitted to clear and enlarge this limited basis of operations. By making his precepts absolute, but conditional, he removes from them nearly all appearance of pedantry, caprice, or oneness, and shows that he can sympathise with various characters besides his own, and is chiefly anxious that each of them should attain to a fair, full, and consistent development of its peculiarities. Life is stated as a dilemma, of which no solution is altogether unimpeachable. It is the philosopher's business to put down in black and white the alternatives that are presented you, not to dictate your choice. He may show that the two paths before you, which seem to run so nearly parallel, lead one to Rome and the other to Jericho; and that when you have started on this or that it will be no easy matter to get off it; but you may, in the upshot, find either of these places very habitable. Most likely you have an inevitable bias for one or the other, acquired in college life, or inherited from the remotest ancestor that bore your name. Well, then, don't ask your Mentor to approve or to condemn your journey. He'll at most give you some suggestions for reaching the end of it more comfortably or expeditiously. The grounds of character are fixed by "Fate" (Essay 1) in your breeding and organisation, and your free agency has a not always unimportant but still only a subtle and latent influence, which can only be proved to exist by experiment, and recognised when in operation:—

Men are what their mother's made them. You may as well ask a loom which weaves huckaback why it does not make cashmere, as expect poetry from the engineer, or a chemical discovery from this jobber. Ask the digger in the ditch to explain Newton's laws—the fine organs of his brain have been pinched by overwork and squalid poverty from father to son for a hundred years. When each comes forth from his mother's womb the gate of gifts closes behind him. Let him value his hands and feet, he has but one pair. So he has but one future, and that is already predetermined in his loins, and described in that little fatty face, pig eye, and squat form. All the privilege and all the legislation in the world cannot meddle, or help to make a poet or prince of him.

If, then, destiny, according to this, has formed one man all for prince, another all for poet, why should the philosopher praise one lot above the other, or endeavour to bring them under common rules of conduct? It is but well he should state the principles first of "power," then of "culture," with impartiality and imperturbable coolness, though their tendencies at some points are quite antagonistic, in the style of the noted proverbs concerning the "answering of a fool." The following is the primary rule for "power," when a man wants that strength of temperament which is essential to the most brilliant success in life:—

The first economy is the stopping decisively our miscellaneous activity and concentrating our force on one or a few points; as the gardener, by severe pruning, forces the sap of a tree into one or two vigorous limbs, instead of suffering it to spinddle into a sheaf of twigs.

"Enlarge not thy destiny," saith the oracle; "endeavour not to do more than is given thee in charge." The one prudence in life is concentration; the one evil is dissipation; and it makes no difference whether our dissipations are coarse or fine—property and its cares, friends and a social habit, or politics, or music, or feasting. Everything is good which takes away one plaything and delusion more, and drives us home to add one stroke of faithful work. Friends, books, pictures, lower duties, talents, flatteries, hopes—all are distractions which cause oscillations in our giddy balloon, and make a good poise and a straight course impossible. You must elect your work; you shall take what the brain can and no other. Only so can that amount of vital force accumulate which can make the step from knowing to doing.

If such be the discipline for power, whether political or artistic, or in the sphere of science, how different are the suggestions for true culture:—

'Tis not a compliment, but a disparagement, to consult a man only on horses or on steam, or on theatres or books, and whenever he appears considerately to turn the conversation towards the butting he is known to fondle. In the Norse heaven of our forefathers Thor's house had five hundred and forty floors, and man's house has five hundred and forty floors. His excellence is facility of adaptation and of transition through many related points, to wide contrasts and extremes. . . . We must leave our pets at home when we go into the street and meet men on broad grounds of good meaning and of good sense. No performance is worth loss of geniality. . . . If you are the victim of your doing, who cares what you do? We can spare your opera, your gazetteer, your chemist analysis, your history, your syllogisms. Your man of genius pays dear for his distinction.

As we might expect, our author gives a slight hint that these two disciplines should be reconciled, but the achievement is only for favoured spirits. At least, if a young man thinks himself equal to it, as he rises from the perusal of these two essays, we will only venture to say that his powers of self reliance is most enviable. There are many hints of a possible amalgamation in the special characters our author sketches, but it is not made very conceivable or imageable. We think they will often avail more where studied separately.

Under "Wealth" he speaks of the necessity of making money with a force and naïveté that are as surprising in a man of his calibre as it is to find among Burns's songs of sentiment and frolic the "Hey for a lass with a tocher." "A man that would cherish his genius must regard himself as an expensive animal, and not ask from the world a bare subsistence." Not only is it indispensable to have or earn an honourable independence—and Mr. Emerson descants with laudable vigour on the text of "Owe no man anything"—but one must have the means of liberally supplying oneself with all the accessories of mental culture and of one's legitimate influence in society. Only we must remark that there is one luxury or comfort, which our author sternly denies to the men who have the most brilliant kind of talent, and have that even which sometimes arrogates to itself exclusively the name of genius. "Art is a jealous mistress, and if a man have a genius for painting, poetry, music, architecture, or philosophy, he makes a bad husband and an ill-provider, and should be wise in season and not fetter himself with duties which will embitter his days and spoil him for his proper work." We will not inquire how far this maxim, which will doubtless be unpalatable in many quarters, might be supported by "The Lives of the Poets" and similar compilations. But it is a striking circumstance that a most trenchant aphorism on the subject should have come to us from the New World—such a land of promise to the humbler labourer, and still so unkindly, it would appear, to the favourites of the Muses, since they can never be good enough providers there.

The chapter on "Worship" is an interesting one, but seems to us somewhat out of place. We will not within our present limits pretend to criticise Mr. Emerson's religious views, nor yet superciliously dismiss them, as others have done, under the mere sobriquet of pantheism. But why should the broad principles of a "religion

of the future," whether rightly or wrongly divined by our author be crushed into the shape of rules for the "conduct of life," when among such rules a sober and humble thinker would much rather find maxims for gradually clearing his mind of prejudices, enlarging his mental prospects, and preparing himself, in one province after another, for the exercise of an enlightened private judgment or a loyal adhesion to authority?

There are some other essays in the volume which, we think, add little to its value. That on Behaviour is as trivial, loose, and hyperbolic as any American magazine-writing could well have been; and that on Beauty, vague, desultory, and irrelevant; while the subject of Illusions should have been regarded more from a moral and less from a metaphysical point of view.

The Worn Wedding-Ring, and other Poems. By W. C. BENNETT. Chapman and Hall.

MR BENNETT is now well known and cordially accepted as a writer of songs and of child-poetry, and the songs in this new volume are most of them very welcome and pleasant reading. The refrains are capitally managed; nothing can "go" better than this:—

And O, but he's come home again,
Home, home, home again;
And O, but he's come home again,
My husband dear, to me!

Or this,

A thousand leagues away, dear coz,
A thousand leagues away;
While round the pole we toss and roll,
A thousand leagues away.

But, after all, some of the songs themselves are spun out, and wanting in the metrical emphasis and rapid, vigorous accentuation which distinguish the true song from other poetry. The sonnets and the thoughtful poems are heavy; but not so "Mother and Son," which, taken with the songs and ballads, gives the book its true value. Here are a few stanzas:—

"Mother, the storm, how it shrieks without!"

"Fit night for the work, son, we're about."

"Mother, the razor's emerald with blood."

"Fling it far where the river comes down in flood."

"Blood on these hands, blood will be seen,"

"Water, my son, will wash them clean."

"What will whiten the sheets and bed?"

"I'll wash them in peace, now your father's dead."

"They'll see where the new-turn'd earth looks brown."

"Son, with my feet I trampled it down."

"O that dead face! O hide it, right!"

"The quicklime I strewed will soon eat that right!"

Mr. Bennett's weak point is his want of humour. We will be bound he is the last man in the world to see the fun of the following verse of his own:—

No prison'd life the farmer lives, bent over desk and book,
Or cribb'd within a shop all day, till white and wan's his look,
Till less like a man he grows, and weaker than our Suke;
And his O! he'd be a farmer—a farmer I would be!

Why didn't he spell Suke's name Sook while he was about it? He seems to have no idea that his fierce raptures about his "native Greenwich" lend themselves to ridicule; that "My Own Easy-chair" is done to death by him; or that "the poet, who, poor, despised, knows himself God-chosen great on earth," is a nuisance. But he is, unless some mighty thread of human feeling be woven into his consciousness. We do not believe in unconscious genius. When Verulam, with remorse and shame at his hesitating heart, leaves his name and fame to posterity, we are hushed in awe and pity; and when Shakspeare, rejoicing in the thought of the immortality he is giving to his mistress, sings (sonnet 55)—

Not marble, nor the gilded monuments
Of princes, shall outlive this powerful rhyme,

all the world sympathises. But when a man, vexed at having to wear a shabby hat, or at being passed in the street by Dippes, the wealthy tallow-chandler, exclaims, after a walk in the fields, that he "knows himself God-chosen great on earth," we wish he would keep his knowledge to himself, and make a power and a beauty rather than a talk of it. No doubt he may do both, but an eye for the ludicrous would restrain his manifestativeness with advantage to himself.

Family Pictures, &c. By the Author of "Mary Powell." Arthur Hall, Virtue, and Co.

We observe that the title of one of the lectures to be delivered at the Post Office is "Good Authors at a Discount." We are unwilling to believe that bad books are at a premium, but certain it is that the trade of bookmaking was never so successfully driven as it is now, and never so audaciously. And the worst offender we know is the author of "Mary Powell." Many years ago she wrote some very nice works, which found thousands of readers. Part of their success depended on the fact that we have an enormous surplus of unmarried women, who naturally take to placid writing in which self-restraint is glorified as the topmost height of goodness. However, the books were really meritorious, and were successful. Lately, however, the lady who unblushingly puts her name to this new "work" has voluntarily degraded herself to a mere manufacturer of things to sell—an offence which admits of but one excuse, which is not hers to plead—and of no justification. The present volume is a downright insult to a much-enduring public. It contains a few personal and other anecdotes, which are interesting because they are true; and a fragment of Tasso, which is interesting to readers who are tolerably well informed about the poet. But these are not enough to carry off the twaddle, flunkeyism, and dullness of the other contents. Who cares for penny-a-lining about Alexander I. and the late Princess Charlotte?

It is a fact well known to the general reader, and particularly well known to reviewers, that the very worst sinners in the book-making way are the "serious" people. They are very fond of reminding the "working-man" that "godliness bath the promise of the life that now is;" and they have certainly a knack of holding "godliness" to its "promise;" they do so wonderfully know how to "gather up the fragments that none be lost." How deeply must Miss Manning have studied the parable of the loaves and fishes, and from what various points of view, before she could feel equal to the effort of printing nine mortal pages "abridged from Dr. Pinkerton's Russia," in a "New Work by the Author of Mary Powell"! How fully does such a climax redeem the promise held forth by a child whose early reading comprised "Mrs. Trimmer's Scripture Stories," and who, at three years old, used to have a vision of receiving a pink prayer-book from the Lord Jesus! All of which, and more, may be found in one of the "fragments" here collected headed "On the Sacred Affections," a paper which is lighted up by quotations from such writers as Malachi, Wordsworth, and Dr. Stebbing, the ever great and glorious Stebbing having the best of it.

We should be doing Miss Manning an injustice if we omitted to give her the benefit of the apologetic motto on her titlepage. It is as follows, and is probably a quotation from the poet Stiggins:—

Some things are much or little, as we take them.
To me a barber's basin may appear
In all the glories of Manubino's helmet;
To you, "Nebuchadne," a mere thing of brass.

Of course the italics are ours. We read many years ago an anecdote of an abortive christening party. The clergyman refused to sprinkle the precious little dame, upon some Puseyite scruple or other. After much expostulation the injured father led off the party, and said

with sublime gesticulation, "Well, Sir, I can only say you are a sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal!" We cannot adapt this pathetic rebuke to the author of "Mary Powell." There is nothing of either cymbal or kettledrum about the book before us. But, having herself helped us to the idea, she cannot complain if we say that there is no question about the brass.

Plain Truths Plainly Put. Ten Sermons to the People of London, preached in St James's Hall and the Theatres. By NEWMAN HALL, LL.B. Nisbet and Co.

Our readers are doubtless aware that Mr. Hall is the Minister of Surrey Chapel—formerly Rowland Hill's, more lately Mr. Sherman's. Mr. Hall is the author of the most popular tract of our own generation, "The Sinner's Friend," which had a circulation that has entirely escaped us, so enormous it was. The "run" of Hannah More's "Parley with the Porter" (the most dramatic tract ever written, if our juvenile recollections of it may be depended upon) was nothing to that of "The Sinner's Friend." The circulation attained by brochures of this kind is something worth knowing. Mr. Hall's "Come to Jesus" is in its 1041st thousand—that is, over a million copies have been printed. "Follow Jesus," a sequel to "Come to Jesus," is in its 155th thousand. Certainly, these are figures to set one thinking about the immense public found in, or found by, those wonderful organisations, our Dissenting "Churches."

Of Mr. Hall's little book now before us we have not much to say. We have read it clean through, which is high praise for a book of sermons, and indeed it is very good. We have either read or heard a very large number of the sermons delivered to mixed audiences of late under the "revival" pressure, and the best we have seen are these by Mr. Hall and one by Dr. Milman.

We may just notice a striking illustration occurring in one of Mr. Hall's discourses in the little book before us of what pressure from without can do and has done in modifying theological commonplaces. We all remember the sort of language habitually held by "sound divines" a few years back about the Atonement, and, indeed, still held in Betheldas, and Cave Adullams, and Mount Zions, where the doctrine is what the initiated call "high;" we mean butchers' shamble talk, founded on the theory of direct substitution. However, Unitarians, Rationalists, and other "liberal" people have had a hearing at last, and not in vain. A corner was never more neatly turned by Mr. Hall than on page 9—"How, then, can sinners escape? Only by something being put in the place of punishment which will answer the same purpose in the government of God." *E pur si muove!*

A NOTICE OF THE "WESTMINSTER REVIEW."—A notice of the *Westminster Review* in the *Charleston Mercury* begins as follows:—"We can award but little space just now to literature, and are compelled to dismiss books and periodicals very summarily. Our library is turned into an arsenal. Guns, and pistols, and bowie-knives occupy shelf and corner, and there you see a keg of powder, and there a bag of bullets, and there a pile of caps, and there, over all, waves a score of banners, the tributes of patriotism and beauty, all of which speak to us with one voice, in one burden, soon to become a choral song of triumph from seaboard to the mountains, 'The South—free—safe—Independent! Liberty or death!'"

MR. BRIGHT AND THE ANNUITY TAX.—Mr. Bright has addressed a letter to Mr. Macanish, the treasurer of the Association for the Total Abolition of the Annuity Tax, in which he deals with that question in a characteristic way. The hon. gentleman recommends a policy of passive resistance to the imposition of this odious tax, suggesting that those who believe in its iniquity should simply refuse to pay it, and take the consequences.

DEATH OF THE COUNT AND COUNTESS DE MONTMOLIN.—The *Moniteur* announces, on the authority of a private despatch, that the Count and Countess de Montmolin both died at Trieste on the 14th inst., but adds that the communication gives no details with regard to their almost simultaneous decease. The Count was the son of Don Carlos, and resided for many years in England; the Countess was sister to the late King Ferdinand II. of Naples.

GERMAN AGITATION.—The agitation in Hesse Cassel for the restoration of the Constitution of 1831 continues in full force, and it is reported that the Grand Duke of Baden, as well as the King of Prussia, has seriously advised the Elector to restore peace to his country by meeting the wishes of his subjects. In Hesse Darmstadt, also, demands by several communes are made on the Grand Duke for the abolition of the Concordat, a new organisation of the Chambers, and a cessation of the prosecutions against the National Association. This latter body, undaunted by prosecutions, continues its agitation against the Government.

GASLIGHTS IN RAILWAY TRAINS.—A successful effort has been made on the East Lancashire section of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway to light the carriages of a passenger-train with gas. The gas is kept in a flexible receiver in the guard's van. From the van iron tubes carry the gas over the tops of the carriages, the connection between the pipes on each carriage being made of flexible tubing. From the pipes over the tops of the carriages short suspenders drop into each compartment of the carriages, to which are attached neat brackets and glass globes.

DESTITUTION.—An appalling amount of destitution exists in the metropolis, and is likely to continue as long as the severe frost lasts. The police courts continue to be literally besieged by applicants for relief in hundreds, and no doubt there are innumerable other cases of distress which do not present themselves to the public eye at all. It is gratifying to find that public meetings are being held in various parishes in order to provide means for alleviating the misery which prevails. The poor-boxes at the police courts have been very heavily drawn upon of late; but it is to be hoped that the liberality of the public will ensure their being promptly replenished.

THE FROST.

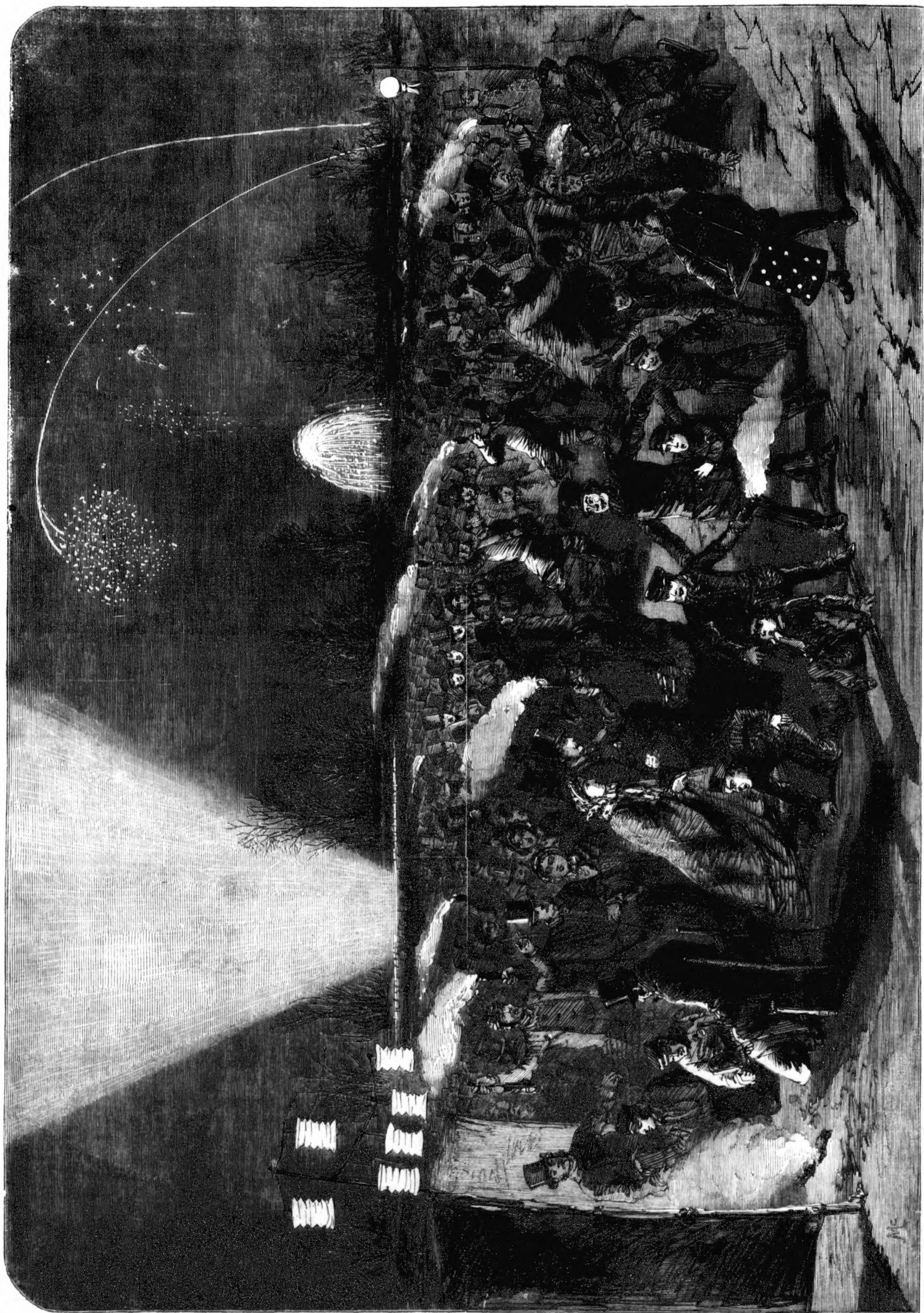
SCENES ON THE SERPENTINE.

THERE WAS to have been a "grand monster fair" on the Serpentine on Monday night; but meanwhile the thaw set in and so weakened the ice that the idea was abandoned. Nevertheless, an immense number of amusement tents and marquees were pitched upon the ice, which were used for dancing. There were likewise a great number of refreshment-tents for the sale of wine, spirits, beer, ham and beef, tea and coffee, and other articles of food. Upwards of 6000 persons, many of whom were skaters, with lighted links, took up their positions at the east end, and formed themselves in procession, being headed by a brass band. After going through several feats of skating, they skated back to about midway of the bridge leading to Albert Gate and the Royal Humane Society's Receiving House, where the skaters and sliders took up their positions à la militaire, one side the attacking and the other the defensive party. A sham fight, carried on with fireworks of different descriptions, took place, the effect of which, as seen from the banks, was singular and striking.

Again the frost set in with increasing severity, and every evening up to the time we go to press has witnessed scenes similar to that described above. On Tuesday night there was a very grand demonstration. The amusement lasted from eight o'clock to nearly midnight, and the scene that then took place surpassed the performance of the previous night. The proceedings commenced with a man bearing on his hat a large red lamp. Upon each shoulder was attached a similar lamp; there were also lamps tied upon each knee, and on the ankles, just above the skates. There was an extraordinary procession of skaters, and the scene was altogether of a most exciting character. An immense number of serpents were ignited and thrown upon the banks among the public, and as they exploded and the sparks flew about, especially among the women, the scene became fearful, and upwards of twenty women were more or less burnt. The sham fight was carried on, one party firing from the north shore, another from the south; but, eventually, both parties commenced a medley attack, and fireworks were thrown indiscriminately about, and many persons were injured. One woman had her clothes set on fire and was badly injured.

The tents were brilliantly lighted up for quadrilles; and there were skittle matches, games of quoits, &c.

Our illustration, taken on this spot, will give the country reader a fair idea of these scenes on the Serpentine, with the crowds, torches, lanterns, fireworks, and coloured fires.



A NIGHT ON THE SERPENTINE.—(DRAWN BY M'CONNELL.)



A CHRISTMAS TREE AT ST. LUKE'S ASYLUM

NEW-YEAR'S FESTIVAL AT ST. LUKE'S.

THE accompanying Illustration of a Christmas-tree at St. Luke's Asylum, in Old-street, is suggestive of a most material subject for congratulation in the present age. This asylum was founded as far back as 1781, for the express object of providing a place of security for, and the proper treatment of, insane persons.

Lunacy assumes a variety of phases, and in every patient the malady partakes of distinct infirmities, or vagaries, resulting either from a total or partial loss of intellect. Maniacs are classified under a more severe character from the apparent impossibility of self-restraint, or the exercise of any reasoning power whatever to distinguish between right and wrong. The treatment adopted at such asylums was frequently of a most barbarous and inhuman kind. The strait-waistcoat and the padded room were familiarities with keepers in addition to personal violence as a means to secure restraint and obedience, but which really extinguished whatever ray of hope or expectation there might remain of the chances of recovery to the poor afflicted patients. In the progress of improvements in medical science the condition of the lunatic could not be overlooked, and many amiable and eminent members of the medical profession devoted their attention to work out an altered system in the treatment of this malady. Parliament interfered and appointed visitors and inspectors of all lunatic asylums; and, as the public voice had vehemently denounced any species of cruelty, the Legislature provided every necessary caution against its continuance. "The Mad-house" soon lost that obnoxious title, and St. Luke's Hospital was among the first in this kingdom to give evidence of the great improvement which had been effected in the executive and soon resulted in the restoration to health and reason of hundreds of afflicted sufferers. There is at present a most able medical staff, a benevolent governor and matron in Mr. and Mrs. Walker, and a well-selected corps of keepers.

The issue of such a change tells its own tale in the Illustration which we give of what occurred on Monday evening week at this asylum. One of the large rooms had been duly furnished and decorated for the purpose of entertaining the inmates with a dance and the "festivities of the season," among which the fashionable entertainment of Christmas-tree was introduced. At seven o'clock they assembled, more than one hundred in number. At each end of the room benches were arranged for the male and female patients, and as many as felt disposed were allowed to amuse themselves in dancing. A few visitors were invited, consisting of several families of the medical authorities, and many of the neighbouring clergy and others. A good band was provided, and a number of lively tunes delighted the whole party. Dancing was kept up with unceasing animation, many of the lunatics so-called dancing with strangers, and the others, who were merely spectators, appeared to take the greatest interest in all the amusements of the evening. One lady played and sang with a feeling and enthusiasm that savoured of anything but an aberration of intellect. At first sight it was difficult, indeed, to realise the fact of its being a lunatic party; but it must be confessed that, on closer examination, when one had been present some little time, many cases appeared in which symptoms of lunacy were manifest. Some of these cases were painfully apparent, affording a strong contrast to the general apparent gaiety of the scene. One poor woman was engaged during the whole of the evening in going through some elaborate process with her hands, as if endeavouring to unravel some imaginary skein. From this occupation she only ceased to partake of refreshment, and then immediately resumed it. This figure is represented in the Engraving. Another patient—a young man—afforded a picture of utter despondency, his head hanging down, his hands clasped before him. The physician, in the kindest manner, in vain endeavoured to rally him.

The old gentleman who is represented in the foreground of the engraving has been an inmate of the asylum for thirty years, and from his childish and harmless ways he is a general favourite. He is known by the familiar name of "Tommy," and it was a sight to see him join in dancing "Sir Roger de Coverley," running as fast as his legs would carry him to meet his partner. Although he is bald and toothless, and his lips have fallen in, he is under the impression that he is still in the prime of life, somewhere about thirty or forty years old. There were other patients who were evidently away from the scene, and in a world of their own. Moreover, there was the one great feature where a number of lunatics are assembled together: there was no conversation, no interchange of thought. One or two comic songs sung by a gentleman visitor in very good style enlivened them, especially a song about "the very identical flute," with a sort of Punch accompaniment on an instrument which resembled a colossal rolling-pin. The song and the instrument together seemed to tickle the fancy of the audience immensely. After dancing had been continued for about two or three hours a large tree ornamented with toys, fruit, bonbons, and other attractive appendages was wheeled into the middle of the room. The lunatics then walked round it two and two in the most orderly manner, and not one of them attempted to touch any of the many hundred objects which hung within their reach. Tickets were then distributed, and each walked forward to receive his or her prize, often with as much gratification and pleasure as children experience at such an entertaining festival. They were all then regaled with buns and spiced ale, and afterwards sang the National Anthem and "Rule Britannia" with an energy worthy of the most patriotic and enlightened subjects of the British throne. At a given signal, when the clock struck ten, they retired to their respective dormitories, affording an evidence beyond all comment of the successful and highly satisfactory condition of the inmates of this once unpopular and dreaded asylum.

A LION KILLED BY COLD.—King Frost in the Zoological Gardens has played a trick. The Nubian lion which has been twelve years in the gardens is dead. In the afternoon he was apparently well, and in the morning he was found by the keeper stiff and cold in his den. A post-mortem examination disclosed the sad fact that the king of beasts has succumbed to the intense cold, no organic disease having been discovered. His wife gave birth, two days after her bereavement, to a stillborn cub.

IMPORTANT MEMORIAL.—A very important memorial, addressed to Lord Palmerston, is now in course of signature among members of Parliament. It animadverts upon the excessive expenditure of the last year, and intimates that the memorialists would view with "regret and disapprobation" a similar expenditure for the ensuing year. His Lordship is informed that, upon the ground of the pacific character of our foreign relations, the country will expect a considerable reduction of our military establishments. His attention is also invited to the civil and miscellaneous expenditure, which, it is said, "loudly demands revision and retrenchment." The memorial is signed by forty or fifty members of Parliament, mostly of the Radical school.

CRUELTY AT SEA.—An inquest was held yesterday week at Rochester on the body of a seaman named William Jordan, a man of colour, late one of the crew of the West Indian Warlock (Captain Peter Essie), who was alleged to have died on board that vessel in the River Medway in consequence of the neglect and want of attention shown him by the captain. The body was found by the jury lying on the floor of the ship's fore-castle covered by a few dirty rags. Daniel Macfarlane, chief mate of the Warlock, deposed that the deceased was shipped at Damerara for a voyage to England in the month of October last. He was in good health until the ship arrived in the Downs, when he became very ill and went below. Witness desired him to go on deck and work, which he did; but deceased appeared so ill that he sent him below. He remained below until the ship arrived at Chatham on Friday evening last, when witness went below and saw him. He was then delirious. Witness asked the captain to go to him, and he went; but, on seeing him, he pronounced him to be "shamming," and sent for some salt and put it in his mouth. The captain then lashed deceased in his hammock and left him, never seeing him again. No fire was allowed in the fore-castle, into which the water leaked. The fore-castle was not a fit place for any human being to lie in. The captain beat the deceased once or twice during the voyage by giving him a "couch up" with the rope. James Little, the second mate, corroborated the evidence of the chief mate as to the treatment to which the deceased was subjected by the captain. Deceased was not so hardy as the other black sailors on board, and when they experienced cold weather he turned ill. The jury returned a verdict of "manslaughter" against Essie, who was accordingly taken into custody.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1861.

SEVENTY-TWO MILLIONS.

It is the time of year for overhauling balance-sheets in general. Mr. Briggs, after throwing himself with ardour into the domestic festivities at Brook Green, recalls himself, and sits late over the two-columned summary handed to him by his bookkeeper in Abchurch-lane. Why should the national balance-sheet escape criticism? Seventy-two millions of expenditure is a large sum, even for a large nation doing a large business, and contemplating large possibilities in the future.

In point of fact, a "representation" to the First Lord of the Treasury on the subject of our lavish outgoings has been handed round for signature among the supporters of the Government in the Lower House, and has received the sanction of not unimportant names. It sets out by expressing the very safe hope that the expenditure of the current financial year has been forced upon the Government by an unhappy combination of circumstances, and goes on to urge that no such combination is now existent. The Chinese War is ended. Italy is going to be constitutionally settled and done for under Victor Emmanuel. Our Commercial Treaty with France is a guarantee that her relations with England will be "decidedly amicable;" and the abolition of the passport system is an affecting proof that the lion is contemplating immediate repose by the side of the lamb. Therefore our warlike establishments must be considerably cut down. Nor can the Civil and Miscellaneous Estimates go unrevised and unreduced. In fact, the memorialists are prepared, in the name of their constituents and that of the country at large, to meet any attempt to continue our present rate of spending not only with regret, but with "disapprobation."

That is the memorial; and, so far as France is concerned, it might have been strengthened by mention of the fact that that great nation views with such an unconscious eye our military preparations that her perfumers have actually issued a new scent, playfully entitled "Bouquet de Rifle Corps." The omission of this significant circumstance is to be regretted, because the case made out is, as it stands, not likely to induce the Government to relax in its work of strengthening the country against possible invasion, and reinforcing its power to hold its own in the Channel and elsewhere on the seas. We have confidence, indeed, that Lord Palmerston knows better than to listen to the cry of "Peace, peace!" at the present time.

When Granville Sharpe went up to Mr. Fox to expound to him foreign politics on prophetic principles, with especial reference to the Little Horn in the book of Daniel, that Minister betrayed the narrowness of his reading by the impatient exclamation, "Little horn, Mr. Sharpe, little horn? What is the little horn?" But our Premier is quite another man. We know from his recent addresses to mechanics' institutes that he has read works on astronomy, which inform him that every star is an inhabited world; and can we doubt that he has extended his researches into the domains of modern prophetic interpretation? Doubtless the Minister who has been anointed by the *Record* and the *Patriot* for his ecclesiastical appointments has read Cumming, and knows better than to recommend, on the very eve of Armageddon, the reduction of our expenditure in preparing for possible war. So far, therefore, all is well. But, even granting whatever the memorialists want granted in this direction, England has a work to do in strengthening her defences by both land and sea, quite apart from what France may intend, or what may be the actual condition of the Continent. That work is, to go on strengthening what is weak, and adding what is needed, until she is strong enough to be safe, happen what may. Our own opinion is that, even supposing the Italian Question wholly solved—which it of course is not—the chronic discontents of Europe will some day have to be fought out, once for all, on a large scale; and it is easy to conceive England in a situation which an expression of "regret and disapprobation" addressed to her enemies would not much palliate.

It comes to this, then. Our naval and military expenditure and our civil and miscellaneous expenditure are both large, and must continue to be so. We are paying a war income tax, and yet the next budget must provide for a deficit. To this pass we have been brought by a Chancellor of the Exchequer who is too clever by half; while, if we were to get rid of him, there is nobody to take his place, and lead us out of the muddle. But the question of detail remains. There can be no doubt that, cheeseparing put aside, a thorough examination of our expenditure would find out a great many places where

large reductions could be effected without injury to the public service. Probably we shall have a Committee of Inquiry, and a Bluebook at the end of the Session. This memorial amounts to no more than Mr. Briggs's annual "My dear, we must retrench!" and Lord Palmerston's reply can mean nothing further than Mrs. Briggs's "Well, my dear, I'm sure I'll begin, if you will." But a severe analysis of our seventy-two millions may be of real service. In the interim, something might be done to cover the deficit by a tax on Parliamentary speeches exceeding a certain length, though it might be difficult to enforce payment from the Irish members.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN, the Prince Consort, and Royal family, and the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, left Osborne on Saturday morning for Windsor Castle.

THE PRINCE CONSORT leads, with a subscription of twenty guineas, a project for acquiring from the trustees of Miss Denman a certain portion of the drawing and designs of Flaxman, with a view to their being placed in the hall of University College. £400 or £500 are said to be required by the promoters of this scheme.

PRINCE ALFRED has again returned to his post, having on Wednesday embarked on board the St. George, at Portsmouth, which left under sail and steam in the afternoon. The St. George takes up her place on the North American station.

THERE ARE 10,000 TAILORS, men and women, out of employment at the present time in New York.

THE ROOF OF THE COLNEY HATCH STATION, on the Great Northern Railway, was blown off by an explosion of gas on Thursday week. The accident is attributed to the action of the frost on the iron pipes.

DR. WILLIAM STOKES is appointed her Majesty's Physician in Iceland, in the room of the late Sir Henry Marsh.

THE REPORT which has been circulated in several newspapers, that Mr. Justice Haliburton proposed to publish a work on the Orange demonstrations in Canada during the Prince of Wales's visit, is without foundation.

A PROJECT will be submitted to the French Corps Legislatif (according to the *Patriot*) transferring the Bourse property to the State.

A SCHEME is in contemplation by which half-pay Captains may be benefited. The main feature seems to be that the recruiting department, which is now managed by officers taken from their regiments, shall be confided to half-pay Captains.

SIGNOR GALLENGA, the *Times* correspondent at Rome, is said to have been again compelled to leave the city.

THE HEAVY FALLS OF SNOW IN THE MOUNTAINS OF GRASSE, department of the Var, have brought a number of wolves down to the neighbouring villages, where they ravage the flocks.

THE NUMBER OF HIGH COMMANDS IN THE AUSTRIAN ARMY IN VENETIA is being diminished, it seems. This measure is said to originate in a desire to lessen expense, and at the same time to give greater freedom of action to the Commander-in-Chief.

A PROPOSAL is on foot for giving a commission to Baron Marchetti to execute a statue of the Black Prince, to be placed opposite that of King Richard in Palace-yard.

MESSRS. JOHN AND GEORGE RENNIE, the engineers, who, in 1819, effected a composition with their creditors of 8s. in the pound, are now honourably liquidating the balance in full.

THE PALMETTO FLAG is described as follows:—"Fifteen white stars on marine blue ground, the centre star to be the larger one; a white palmetto tree and crescent on the upper right-hand corner; and the corner space, including the ground on which the palmetto and crescent are placed, to be of red."

SOME OF THE NAILERS ON STRIKE in South Staffordshire have destroyed the bellows of men who refused to join them.

DISRUPTIONS are said to have occurred on board her Majesty's ships Orion and Cesar, at Corfu.

A SOCIETY has been formed in London for organizing a plan for reading the Scriptures aloud in the open air throughout the metropolis and suburbs.

THE BEEHIVE MILLS, Ancoats, Manchester, have been destroyed by fire. The damage done by the fire is computed at £20,000, an immense loss, rendered still more pitiable by the fact that 400 people are temporarily thrown out of employment by the disaster.

TWO OR THREE RIFLED CANNON have been shipped from Liverpool for Charleston.

AN ENGLISHMAN, of the Protestant persuasion, who recently died in the Beaujon Hospital, Paris, was not allowed to receive the usual religious offices from the Rev. Mr. Forbes, an English clergyman.

THE *New Prussian Gazette* says the French army in Syria will be increased by a portion of the French troops returning from China; and that, in spite of England, the French will not leave Syria in March.

THE *Manchester Examiner* has reason to believe that the time appointed for the French Treaty to come into full operation will be considerably anticipated, and that in the course of a few weeks the Emperor will make known his determination to give immediate effect to its stipulations.

THE LATE CENSUS IN THE SWISS CANTON OF BASEL (country) makes known the existence of a family, composed of a father, mother, and nineteen children, the eldest of whom is twenty-three, all robust and healthy.

NOT FEWER THAN 1415 HOMICIDES were committed in Spain in the year 1859.

THE DECAY OF EFFLORESCENCE OF THE STONEMASONRY OF THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT is not, it would appear, confined to the exterior of the building, but is showing itself in the roof and stonework ornamentation of St. Stephen's Hall, arising, it is believed, from the destructive influence of the gas.

THE *Dresden Journal* amuses its readers with a story of the concession by Italy to England of a Sicilian port, Syracuse. The arrangements, it says, have been made at Turin by Sir James Hudson.

THE UNIVERSITY AT CHACOW is closed, as the Polish youth refuse to attend until lectures are delivered in the vernacular.

THE REPORT recently circulated in several journals of the gradual improvement in Miss Nightingale's health is unhappily without foundation. Her malady increases upon her, and her state is one of great exhaustion and severe suffering.

A CONCORDAT had been signed at Rome between the Papal See and the Republic of Hayti. The ratifications having been exchanged, the document has just been promulgated in the official journal of the island.

M. JULES FAYRE, we hear, intends to speak on an early day in his place in the Legislative Corps on the *tripotages*, the jobbing at the Bourse, the *pots de vins*, and *douceurs* of various kinds, which for some time past have been the theme of scandal in Paris.

THE *Saturday Review* and two or three other weekly newspapers were seized in France last week. It therefore appears that the "free circulation" which M. Persigny professes to accord to foreign journals is not absolute.

THE EIGHTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY was opened to the public on Monday at the gallery of the Society of Painters in Water Colours, Pall-mall East.

THE PROJECT OF CONVERTING THE TIPPERARY MILITIA INTO A BRIGADE of the Royal Artillery has been definitively abandoned.

A LARGE AMERICAN SHIP, with no white ports, deserted, and with only her mainmast and bowsprit standing, was towed into Plymouth Sound on Saturday morning, having been picked up by some Scilly pilots at the chops of the Channel.

THE LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN has received an official intimation from the Earl of Carlisle that it is not the intention of Government to abolish the vicereignty.

THE MARQUIS OF CHANDOS, chairman of the London and North-Western Railway Company, tendered his resignation on Saturday. He is succeeded by Rear-Admiral Moorsom.

THE MEMBERS FOR BIRMINGHAM, Mr. Scholefield and Mr. Bright, are invited to meet their constituents in the Townhall, Birmingham, on the evening of Tuesday, the 29th inst.

THE DEATH OF WILLIAM HILLIER, the celebrated cricketer, and one of the best bowlers that England ever produced, is announced. Hillier was forty-seven years of age.

AT AN INFLUENTIAL MEETING HELD AT GLASGOW a few days ago resolutions were ultimately passed in favour of requesting the Government to step in and lend to the volunteer force "a continuous national support of a substantial and liberal character."

MAJOR-GENERAL EYRE, commanding the forces in the Chatham district, has issued a memorandum to the troops under his command inviting them to contribute towards relieving the great amount of distress which now exists throughout the country.

THE LIONS AT ASTLEY'S THEATRE.

THE inquest on the body of Edward Smith, the man who was killed by a lion at Astley's Amphitheatre, was resumed and concluded on Monday.

A surgeon who examined the body of the deceased said that the countenance exhibited a degree of calmness and composure by no means indicative of suffering, rather implying that death was instantaneous. The body exhibited a large number of wounds, some superficial, others deep and penetrating. These wounds proved on dissection of a much more serious character than their first appearance would lead one to suppose. The conclusion drawn from the nature of the wounds and their situation is, that the man was seized from behind by the claws of the lion, and cuffed right and left on the head, which produced concussion of the brain, and in all probability immediate death. The lion then bit him in the neck, causing a wound of a very dangerous character. Other wounds were caused by the animal picking him up to carry him about.

Mr. Crockett, the keeper of the lions, said the iron door of the cage had been wrenched open inwards, and by this means the animals had made their escape. "On the Saturday previous to the accident I exhibited three of the lions, one of them loose, on the stage. I fed them, as usual, after the performance. They were confined together in a large den at the back of the stage; the fourth, which was sick, was placed in a small cage near the others. The two dens were from a foot to eighteen inches apart. The front, sides, and back of the large den are composed of iron bars, but the whole is covered with wood panels, in compartments, which run into a groove at the top of the den, while at the bottom they are secured by iron pins, or bolts fixed in the sockets. After removing the body of Smith I went to the den where the three lions were kept. It was empty. I noticed that one of the shutters had slipped aside. I cannot account for the slipping of the panel, but what afterwards occurred is intelligible enough. The lions, on the removal of the panel, had seized with their claws a piece of canvas which I had placed round the cage of the sick lion, and in pulling it into their den had broken one of the iron bars and wrenched the door from its fastenings." Crockett also stated the lions had not been fed the previous day. They are never fed on Sundays, and are sometimes permitted to go four or five days without food—a system of feeding which may possibly give their keeper a greater command over them, but which is not likely to improve the chances of a stranger when in their clutches.

The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death," adding an opinion that the cage was of insufficient strength.

We give a Portrait of Crockett, the "Lion Conqueror." He began life as a musician, and was lately leader of the band in an exhibition belonging to Messrs. Sanger. While engaged in this peaceful occupation Crockett suddenly conceived an inclination to acquaint himself with the art of taming wild animals; and the purchase of five lions by Messrs. Sanger gave him the opportunity. The results of Crockett's endeavours have been the complete submission of his fierce companions, who will now follow him like so many dogs. This training has taken but a short time, since they were first handled by Crockett in 1858.



PORTRAIT OF CROCKETT, THE LION-TAMER.

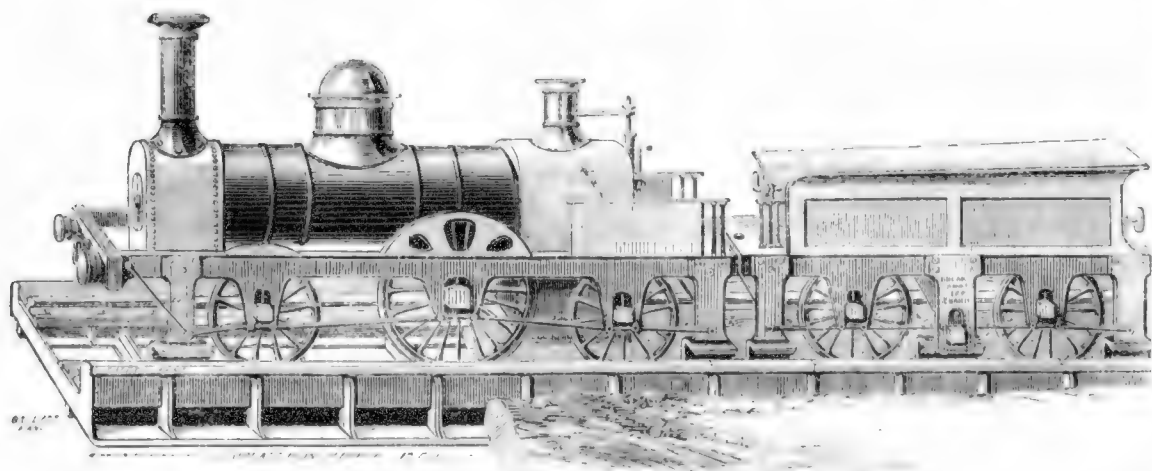
WRIGHT'S PATENT BEDPLATE IRON SAFETY RAILWAY.

THE annexed Engravings illustrate an interesting and, we believe, valuable invention, by Messrs. Wright and Co., of George-yard, London, for the prevention of accidents on railways. This invention comprises a safety-kerb and life-guard, which confine the train to the rails, and prevent loss of life from the breaking of axles, tires, springs, &c., and, moreover, enable a speed of one hundred miles per hour to be performed with perfect ease and safety. The safety-kerb is, in fact, an additional rail, which is elevated and applied on each side of the ordinary way, and which weighs 168lb. per yard. The life-guards are four supports, placed one at each corner of the car-

riage, engine, and tender, which, in case of an axle or wheel breaking, lodge on the kerb, and keep the carriages suspended, thereby preventing injury to the passengers. The kerb is also employed for applying the break upon, by means of which, in cases of collision, the carriages are more readily stopped, and with less wear and tear to the working parts. The invention is particularly recommended for bridges, tunnels, viaducts, high embankments, sharp curves, and steep inclines.

The first feature of a distinctive kind which arrests attention is the safety-kerb, which may be applied with Wright's longitudinal bedplate iron girder-sleepers, or with the ordinary transverse or longitudinal wooden sleepers in common use. One of our Illustrations shows the kerb connected with the bedplate iron sleepers, in one solid piece, and forming a longitudinal boundary line to the rails externally. The frequency of accidents, owing to trains running off the rails, and from unseen flaws and unsound materials and workmanship, &c., affords a sufficient reason for the adoption of this mode of prevention, which, from its solidity and adaptability to the purpose for which it is intended, we believe to be as valuable as it is ingenious. Who that has studied the subject has not often cast a doubtful eye upon the thin threads of glistening iron on which presently a train is to rush by at the rate of fifty miles an hour, and wondered how railway travelling was possible on such a system? That it is possible we all know, but that it is pursued too frequently at a fearful cost of life and money our daily chronicles of disaster tell us in unmistakable terms. Here, it seems, is a method of effectually preventing accidents arising from trains getting off the lines; for on Wright's plan, if the engine took the first leap, as usually happens in such cases, the driving-wheels must glance against the sides of the safety-kerb, and be compelled back to their proper position instantly; and all that the driver and passengers would know of the occurrence would be a momentary hiss, owing to the grinding contact of the two metal surfaces, and with the hiss a moment's jolting from side to side, and then the train would pursue its course as smoothly as ever. When an engine takes a leap on railways, as at present constructed, it may be into a river, a chalk pit, or a public road, sixty or a hundred feet below the line, with perhaps all the carriages after it, and then let imagination picture from what has happened the scene.

As we have before mentioned, another feature of the present plan is that called the "life-guard," which is an application of the principle on which hansom cabs are rendered safe in the event of the horse falling. At each end of every carriage is fixed a solid iron supporter, powerfully braced to the axle-boxes, and further supported by transverse bars. These life-guards, or supporters, reach down to within three inches of the safety-kerb, and hang over and inside of it, and, being so securely constructed, are enabled to withstand any amount of strain and friction. While all goes right they are altogether inactive, but in case a wheel should come off, or an axle break, the guard adjoining the disabled wheel receives the weight of the carriage on that side, and may either slide along the iron kerb beneath it and go the remainder of the journey, or by its excessive friction bring the



WRIGHT'S PATENT SAFETY RAILWAY.

train to a stop. Supposing all the wheels to part from a carriage on a journey, the life-guards would nevertheless support it, and carry it as if it were on a sledge, in perfect safety, until by acting as breaks they brought the train to a standstill.

Other and less striking details are observable in the manner in which the inventor of this plan proposes to lay the permanent way. Instead of rotten wooden sleepers with their innumerable fastenings, which are so rapidly destroyed, and always liable to get out of their places to the endangering of the traffic, durable and solid iron sleepers are used, upon which the rail is placed in a recess, and bolted down therein, with a cushion of wood or indiarubber between the two surfaces, to absorb the blows of the wheels, and render the passage of the train more soft, smooth, and noiseless. To remove a

worn-out rail from these sleepers requires no disturbance of the ballast, so that the general levels remain the same, even if considerable repairs are required, which, it must be obvious, will occur at vastly longer intervals than on the present plan of laying down the rails, on a method which, compared with the enormously disproportionate weights now run, involving excessive repairs and frequent and expensive renewals, is almost as fragile as the foundation of a card-castle.

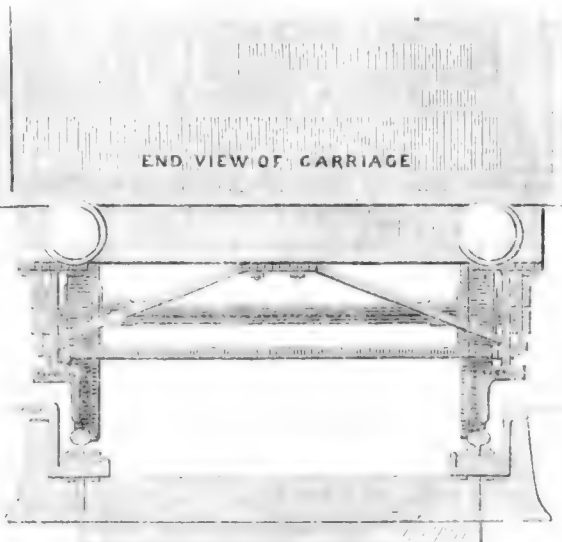
But, besides the value of the safety-kerb in preventing trains getting off the line, this system provides also for the quick action of the breaks upon them when collision and danger are imminent, and by which a more powerful bite and holding-on power is obtained instead of, as at present, making the wheel itself bear the wrenching,

and tearing process of stopping the train. In the case of a threatened collision the force of the body of the carriage is brought to bear upon the safety-kerb, and of course the stoppage is more quickly effected, and wheels and axles remain unhurt.

THE DEFENCES OF CHARLESTON.

PUBLIC interest is now almost monopolised by the secession movement in America, and is especially fixed on Charleston, with its forts and defences. By way of satisfying the general curiosity, we engrave a View of Fort Moultrie, with Charleston in the distance.

Fort Moultrie is situated on Sullivan's Island, at the mouth of the harbour, and about three miles in a direct line from the



END VIEW OF CARRIAGE



FORT MOULTRIE.—CHARLESTON IN THE DISTANCE

city. It is an inclosed water-battery, with a front on the water side of about 300 feet, and a depth of about 250 feet. The work was constructed with salient and re-entering angles on all sides, so as to adapt it for defence, either from the attack of a storming party or regular approaches. The outer and inner walls are of brick, capped with stone, filled in with earth, so as to make a solid structure 16 feet in thickness. This fort has been very much strengthened lately, by closing the postern-gates, by cutting sallyports, by placing 12-pounder howitzer guns in the angles, so as to command all points; by the digging of a ditch 15 feet wide and 15 feet deep, and by other improvements. Fort Montre is memorable for a victory gained by the American troops, commanded by Colonel Montre, over a British squadron, commanded by Sir Peter Parker, January 28, 1776. The British force consisted of a fleet of forty or fifty sail, and the opposing force of 433 men, rank and file. The fort was hastily constructed. In its general plan it presented a square, with a bastion at each angle, built of palm-tree logs, dovetailed, and bolted together, and laid in parallel rows sixteen feet asunder; between these rows the space was filled with sand. In the engagement, which lasted from 10 a.m. till 9 p.m., and which was one of the fiercest of the Revolutionary War, the British were defeated, their loss being 225 killed and wounded, while the American loss was 11 killed and 26 wounded. Fort Montre was subsequently rebuilt on an enlarged scale, so as to render it one of the most extensive fortresses on the coast.

Fort Sumter is a work of solid masonry, octagonal in form, is classed as one of the strongest fortifications in the country, and is generally regarded as being as nearly impregnable as pos-



THE GERMAN GOOSE MAIDEN. DRAWN & ENGRAVED BY THEO. F. H. EMMAN.

ible. It is situated about the centre of the harbour, on the edge of the ship channel, some three-fourths of a mile from Fort Montre, and nearly three and a half miles from the city of Charleston, which it commands, as it also does Fort Montre and Castle Pinckney. It stands on an island, though it seems to rise directly out of the water. It is pierced on the north, east, and west sides with a double row of portholes for the heaviest guns, and on the south or land side, in addition to openings for guns, is loopholed for musketry, and is bomb-proof. The armament of Fort Sumter consists of 140 guns, many of them being 10-inch "Columbiads," which throw either shot or shell, and which have a very long range. There is in the magazine a large amount of artillery stores, consisting of about 40,000 lb. of powder, in addition to what has now been removed there from the abandoned fortresses, and a proportionate quantity of shot and shell. The wharf or landing of Fort Sumter is on the south side, and is, of course, exposed to a cross fire from all the openings on that side. A large number of workmen have been engaged for several weeks in mounting guns and placing this fort in condition for any emergency that might arise. Gen. Scott, it is said, pronounces the fortification, when manned, one of the strongest in the world.

Castle Pinckney is placed on the southern extremity of a narrow strip of marsh land, extending in a northerly direction to Hog Island Channel. To the harbour side the so-called castle presents a circular front. It has never been regarded as a work of importance, although its proximity to the city would, if garrisoned, give it value. Commanded as it is by Fort Sumter, it is well armed, and is abundantly supplied with ammunition.

"GIRL TENDING CEESE."—BY THEODORE HOSEMAN. This pretty picture of rustic life is copied from an oil-painting by Hosemann, and the drawing on the wood block for the engraving which forms our illustration is also the work of the same talented artist.

Theodore Hosemann is celebrated throughout Germany as an illustrator of books for youth, a branch of art the importance of which cannot be too highly appreciated when we consider the powerful influence which pictorial representations invariably exercise on the youthful mind. For upwards of thirty years Hosemann has laboured in his useful calling with indefatigable energy, combining with a never-failing freshness of fancy the purest taste and a high tone of moral feeling. His influence on the rising generation in Germany may be guessed from the fact that the thousands of illustrations which Hosemann's prolific pencil every year creates are multiplied into millions by wood-engravings and lithography.

Theodore Hosemann is a native of Brandenburg, where he was born, on the 24th of September, 1807. His father served in the army during the great Continental war against France, and in the year 1811 his family settled in Dusseldorf. Young Hosemann, who was placed in the elementary school of that city, soon evinced a decided passion for drawing, and he attended the Academy of Art, at the head of which was Inspector Cornelius, the uncle of the celebrated Peter Cornelius. About this time Hosemann began to direct his attention to lithography, and he made some beautiful drawings on stone. One of these drawings having been seen by a fellow-student of Hosemann, it proved the means of introducing him to the lithographic atelier just then established by Arnz and Winckelmann, where he obtained employment. He was now only thirteen years of age, and after the lapse of two years his earnings were sufficient to enable him to afford assistance to his parents, whose means had been much reduced since the Peace.

His employment in the lithographic establishment occupied him closely during the day, so that he was able to pursue his studies in the drawing academy only in the evenings. Sometimes the manager of the lithographic atelier would give him a ticket for the theatre, with instructions to sketch all the characters in the piece, with particular attention to the correctness of the costumes. These commissions he executed with remarkable readiness and accuracy.

In the year 1821 Peter Cornelius became director of the Academy of Dusseldorf, which post he retained until 1826, when he was succeeded by Schadow. Hosemann studied under Schadow for two years, at the expiration of which time they both left Dusseldorf to settle in Berlin. There Hosemann made his first essays as an illustrator of books for youth—a career which he has subsequently pursued with unparalleled success. Among hundreds of popular works, the interest of which has been heightened by the pencil of Hosemann, we may mention "The Adventures of Baron Munchausen" and the "Tales by Andersen and Arndt."

Hosemann's talents as a painter in water-colours caused him to be engaged to instruct the Duchess of Schwerin in that branch of art. During late years he has applied himself to the study of oil-painting, and he has produced many pictures of first-rate excellence. One of these oil-paintings, as already stated, furnishes the subject of our illustration. We need not point attention to its charming simplicity and truth to nature. In the year 1857 this popular artist was appointed to a professorship in the Berlin Academy of Art.

THE DWELLINGS OF THE POOR.

AN important meeting, convened by private circular, and attended by nearly all the landed proprietors of the district, was held in the Townhall of Romsey on Monday for the purpose of taking into consideration the best means of improving the dwellings of the labouring classes. Lord Palmerston presided, and there were also present the Right Hon. W. Cowper, M.P., Chief Commissioner of Public Works; the Hon. R. Dutton, M.P.; Mr. W. E. Nightingale, Sir George Shee; Mr. Flinders, Mayor of Romsey; the Rev. G. L. Berthon, Vicar; the Hon. and Rev. C. Harris, and other gentlemen. Lord Palmerston, who was received with great enthusiasm, in opening the proceedings, said:—

We are met here, gentlemen, to take into consideration the state of the habitations of the poorer and labouring classes. The badness of that condition has been long, especially in this town, the subject of remark. I don't know, however, that we are worse off in that respect than many other towns, but it is our duty to look to what exists here, and endeavour if possible to provide some alleviation or remedy for the evil. Some years ago, when the cholera prevailed generally, a very distinguished medical gentleman happened to be staying at Broadlands. At my request he made a medical inspection of this town, and drew up a report, of which a copy, I think, was given to the Mayor for the time being, and which is now in the possession of the authorities of the town. He stated that there was a great number of habitations which were not fit for the occupation of human beings; that they were destitute of all those accommodations and conveniences requisite for a decent dwelling-house; and that they were positively unhealthy, owing to the want of ventilation and the absence of a sufficient number of cubic feet of space for each person who lived in them. I believe that that report was acted upon, and that a great deal of good resulted. There was, I think, a committee appointed for the removal of nuisances, who were very actively occupied, and who by their exertions removed in some degree the causes of illness which at that time prevailed; but, of course, nothing could be done because the functions of that committee did not include any measures for improving the habitations of the lower classes. We are met here to-day to take this important matter into serious consideration. I have no particular proposal to make myself, but there are others here who I am sure will suggest some means whereby the evil may be alleviated. I therefore shall be glad, as you I have no doubt will be, to hear their opinions as to the best means by which it may be possible to remove the evil and provide a sufficient and adequate remedy. Having stated the object of the meeting, I leave it now for any person who has matured in his own mind the consideration of this important subject to state what has occurred to him in the course of his reflections.

Mr. Cowper, M.P., having been called upon to make a few remarks, said the way had already been trodden by many societies, one of which is the Cottage Improvement Society at Hastings:—

That society has now been in operation for three years and a half. It has a capital of £12,000, in shares of £100 each, and has obtained possession of 100 houses. It has not built any, but has merely taken existing houses and improved them. The gross rents they have received have been about 11½ per cent on the total outlay, and the net rental, after paying rates, taxes, and insurance, has been about 8½ per cent. They have paid every year since they started a dividend of 6 per cent, and have laid by a reserve fund amounting at the present moment to £200. At Rehill there is another society, which has been in operation for three years, and, in addition to an accumulating fund, has paid its shareholders a dividend of 5 per cent. The society at Windsor has also paid a percentage upon its operations. In London the society established in the Strand has directed its attention to the renovation of old houses rather than to the building of new ones, and they have realised a net profit of about 4½ per cent. The experience of these societies shows that it is not, as people fancy, a hopeless thing to get a fair interest for money laid out in this manner. I may describe to you what the London society has done. At Tyndall's-buildings, near Holborn, they experienced great difficulty in obtaining possession of the property. Before it came into their possession, Tyndall's-buildings was known as one of the worst nests of fever in the Holborn district, but such a change was produced by the improvement which the society effected during the last year that there was not a single case of low fever there at all. Another point that I ought to direct your attention to is to provide lodging-houses for single men. In ordinary cases it is found that a man living with a stranger family takes up the room that is wanted for others, and he is generally driven to the public-house. There is one thing to be avoided in establishing these societies. Care must be taken that the staff is not so large as to swallow up the profit. I think we can fairly establish the good work without any great sacrifice, or without embarking in it any considerable amount of money. What we have to consider is not merely a scheme of pure benevolence and charity, but a proposal which, by an investment of our money, will give us a fair interest, and enable us to effect a vast amount of good.

Mr. Dutton, M.P., the Rev. E. L. Berthon, and Mr. Taylor having addressed the meeting,

The Mayor moved the appointment of a committee for the purpose of forming a company (under the Limited Liability Act) to carry out the objects of the meeting. The proposition was carried.

CHARGE OF CRUELTY AGAINST A NAVAL CAPTAIN.

It will be recollected that her Majesty's ship *Cossack* was ordered home from the West Indies on account of circumstances which occurred during the Prince of Wales's visit to Canada. While at Prince Edward Island some of the crew of the *Cossack* deserted, but were afterwards taken prisoners. A court-martial was held on these men at Halifax, on board her Majesty's ship *Nile*, on the 8th of last October, and the charges were found proved against them, but on the trial certain accusations were made against the Captain by a man named Isaiah Smith, by which Captain Moorman was charged with cruelty and unofficerlike behaviour. The ship was accordingly ordered to England, and Captain Moorman was tried by court-martial on Monday morning on board her Majesty's ship *Victory* at Portsmouth.

Smith's deposition was as follows:—

On leaving Port Royal, on the 29th of April last, a friend sent me off a bunch of green bananas, and, as I was doing duty in the boatswain's store-room, I took them down there and hung them on a hammock hook until the lower deck was clear. Captain Moorman, on coming round to me the next morning, said to me, "Isaiah Smith, do you know it against my orders that vegetables of any kind should be hung up here?" I replied, "No, Sir, I never heard any word passed in the ship where the vegetables were to be placed." Captain Moorman called the master-at-arms, and ordered me to take the vegetables on deck, and I did so. He then ordered some four-yarn spun yarn to be sent for to lash the vegetables round my neck, and then ordered me to mount on the capstan, which I respectfully refused, owing to the rating I then held as a petty officer, and also to the rolling of the ship. Captain Moorman then ordered a "burton" to be sent down from the maintop, which was hooked on to a lashing made fast round me. I was then tried up and the hauling part was made fast to the main bit. In this position I was kept from nine o'clock quarters in the morning until eight o'clock at night, and then ordered below by the Master-at-Arms, and placed, both legs in irons, on bread and water. The next morning I was had up on deck and tried up as on the previous day for a few hours, when the Captain ordered me to be lowered, and I directed me to stand up on the capstan, with the vegetables slung round my neck. About eleven o'clock Lieutenant Barkley, the senior Lieutenant, ordered me down, and told me to look in the bed of the capstan and take out the spare gun-locks, and then ordered the ship's Corporal to put me aft, under charge of the lifebuoy sentry. About twelve o'clock the ship's Corporal said, "Isaiah Smith, it's an order from the Captain and First Lieutenant that if you get on the capstan and stand there one hour the Captain will look over what has occurred." I then went and stood on the capstan for the hour, at the end of which the same Corporal came and ordered me off. The same day an order was given to make sail. I went for my violin, and took up my station where I had always stood previously, about the capstan. Captain Moorman then ordered me on the capstan to play the violin while the tonisels were being hoisted. I respectfully refused, because I thought I should not be safe, the ship being at sea and rolling, and the capstan having been oiled over. The Captain then ordered me to be tried up, and a running bowline was ordered to be passed round my loins by Thomas Manning. Manning respectfully refused to do so. It was passed round me afterwards, and I was hoisted up with my violin and bow in my hands, and the plaintiffs around my neck. After a while I was lowered to the deck and ordered by the Captain to stand one hour and sit one hour on the capstan, the vegetables still round my neck. I was not to leave the capstan without a special order from him. I remained there until eight o'clock at night. I was then again put both legs in irons, the Master-at-Arms bringing me my allowance of bread and water. The next morning I was brought on deck by a file of marines. Captain Moorman then directed me to a musician on an ordinary seaman, and directed that my petty officer's badge should be cut off. Captain Moorman then produced another warrant and degraded me from the first to the second class. I then said to Captain Moorman, "I thank you, Sir, if you would forward my request to the Admiralty for a court-martial on account of bad usage, cruelty, and ill-treatment on the ship's passage from Port Royal to Bermuda." The Captain replied, "Yes; a pretty fellow to ask me to forward you a court-martial. If you ask me again for anything of that sort I'll give you three dozen. Boat-swain, pipe down!"

The witness then went on to state that he had suffered considerably in person from the effects of the treatment on board the *Cossack*.

Witnesses were heard on each side, the evidence being rather contradictory. Captain Moorman's defence was that he found orders disregarded by the man Smith and set at naught on the subject of cleanliness at a time when a disease (ulcers) was raging in the ship, and no cause could be assigned for it. He contended that it had been proved by the evidence that Smith had been cautioned not to place decaying matter in the store-room; that it had also been proved that while on the capstan he could stand in an easy manner, and that the rope could be no restraint upon him, nor was the ship rolling in a manner to make his position at all uncomfortable, much less dangerous. The man's laughing conduct when on the capstan proved he was in no pain or danger. Mr. Russell, the surgeon of the ship, had told the Court that he never knew Smith had been lashed up. All the witnesses who had been called had spoken to his not having been swinging about. He was not disposed to be beard by a character like the man Smith, and, had he committed himself again, he would have punished him after so well-meant a caution. The standing bowline placed round Smith's body was only placed there to make him stand where ordered, and had perfect play from his loins to his armpits. On the occasion of the man Smith's desertion he might have said, "Thank God, the fellow is gone!" but he took a different course, and his duty to his profession compelled him to endeavour to capture the deserter and hand him over to punishment, which he succeeded in doing.

The Court honourably acquitted the prisoner. The president, addressing Captain Moorman, said, "Captain Moorman, I have much pleasure in handing you your sword."

SHOCKING MURDERS IN IRELAND.

LAST week a very aged shopkeeper, named O'Callaghan, residing at Ballymote in the county of Sligo, was found dead in his bed with his throat cut. His old wife was found under the shop counter with her throat cut from ear to ear, and the body of the servant girl was discovered outside the stable door with her head almost severed from her body. A man named Phibbs has been arrested under the following circumstances:—Some time since Phibbs occupied a house and shop adjoining the house of Mr. O'Callaghan, in which the tragedy occurred. This Phibbs failed in business, became a bankrupt, and subsequently left the town. On Monday evening Phibbs was seen going into Mr. O'Callaghan's shop, and when the murder was discovered two tumblers were on a table near Mr. O'Callaghan's bed, who was lying ill at the time, and it was supposed that Phibbs had been asked by the old man to drink something with him.

In the town of Sligo, Matthew Phibbs went to a butcher named Conlisk, and ordered a neck of mutton, which he directed to be sent to the Imperial Hotel, and paid 3s. 6d. for the meat. He threw the silver on the scales, and as he did so Conlisk observed that the coin was bloody, but, thinking that it might have come in contact with the fresher part of the mutton, made no further observation, but sent a boy to accompany Phibbs with the mutton to the hotel. On the journey from the butcher's stall towards the hotel Phibbs fell three times, as he was very tipsy. The boy called on one of the constabulary, and said it would be well to take the drunken man to the barrack, as he had a great deal of money about him. A constable took him into custody, and when he was searched with other money was found £37 in notes which were saturated with blood. He was detained a prisoner until next morning, when he was set at liberty and the money returned to him. Some time after he was let go the constabulary heard of the murder. Information was sent in every direction, and a mounted horseman traced the supposed murderer to a small place called Riverstown, where he came up with him. He was stupidly drunk at the time. He was taken into custody, and has since been committed for trial.

THE LORDS OF THE ADMIRALTY have announced their intention of extending the benefit conferred by the Civil Service Superannuation Act to all the ordinary established labourers permanently employed in her Majesty's several naval yards and victualling establishments, both at home and abroad.

MURDER NEAR BRISTOL.

A DREADFUL murder was committed at Dundry, near Bristol, on the evening of the 9th. The victim is the wife of one George Waterman, an old pensioner, who is himself in great danger. Two men, Charles and Matthew Wedmore, are accused of the crime. On being brought before the magistrates the following deposition made by Waterman, in the presence of the prisoners, was read:—

On the evening of the 9th of January the two prisoners came to the door of my house, and some one knocked. I asked who it was. They made the reply, "It is the policeman of Windford, John." I opened the door, and as soon as I had opened it the short one, Matthew Wedmore, struck me on the head with a large stick. I then ran back into the kitchen, and he followed me. The same man struck me four or five times on the head with the bludgeon, and the blood flowed about the floor. I got up and the short prisoner (Matthew) asked me where my money was. Then he took me by the collar, and took me up stairs, and the other prisoner followed. I told them all the money I had was in the little box. Then the tall prisoner went round and threw the upper box off, and it fell down open. He then opened the other box, took out the clothes, and found five or six shillings. The shorter prisoner (Matthew) was during this time holding the stick over me. The taller prisoner then took a silver watch from the other box. I should know the watch again. I missed a Peninsular medal, with three silver clasps and ribbon attached. Then the tall prisoner searched the bed-clothes, and two pistols, which I kept under the pillow, fell on the floor. The tall prisoner took one of the pistols and presented it at me. The pistols were loaded and capped. The two pistols were taken away. The tall prisoner put his foot against a chest of drawers, and broke one of the drawers open. He took a bottle containing either gin or brandy from the drawer, and I believe he took a handkerchief and put it into his pocket. I saw him put something into his pocket, but am not sure whether it was a handkerchief or not. The short prisoner then dragged me down stairs by the collar. The prisoners then went into the kitchen, and took a loaf and a piece of bacon, which they cut from a larger piece, and tied it up in a bundle-handkerchief. The prisoners then took me into the milkhouse and asked me where the cheese was. They could not find any cheese. I looked too, and couldn't find it. The prisoners and I then went into the kitchen. I then said to them, "Don't hurt my wife." The tall prisoner, whose name, to the best of my knowledge, is Charles Wedmore, then said, "I have put her to sleep." The prisoners then tied up what they liked in the bundle. The short prisoner asked me for a piece of cord. I said, "Here's a slip; will that do?" He then tied my hands behind me with the slip, and took me into the milkhouse. He tied my legs together, and tied me to the bacon-stand. He told me to stay there twenty minutes, and then to call my wife to release me. They then went off, and I saw them no more. I got the ropes off me and went into the kitchen, and found my wife lying in the middle of the kitchen, on her right side. She was not sensible. I tried to lift her up, but was so weakened by loss of blood that I could not do so. I then went to William Lovell's house, about three hundred yards off, for assistance. He helped me home. We found my wife in just the same position as when I left her—lying on the floor. My wife was sitting by the fire, sewing, when the men first came in. I missed a silver watch which had been on the table in the kitchen. I had the watch in my hand between six and seven o'clock. Since the prisoners left I found the stick on the table in my kitchen. It is the stick now produced, and was the one with which I was struck. The prisoners are the men who came to my house and attacked me. I had known the prisoner Charles Wedmore before he had been in my house. The other I had not seen before. I am sure the shorter prisoner is the man, as he had me by the collar, and I took particular notice of him. The pistols produced are my property. I missed a bunch of keys. I believe those produced are mine, but, as my wife kept them, I cannot say.

Waterman also identified two watches which the prisoners had pawned a day or two after the assault at Bristol.

Mrs. Waterman survived but half an hour. A surgeon deposed that her skull was severely fractured.

On Thursday night (the 10th) Sergeant Morse, of the Somerset police, came upon the murderers at Clifton and pursued them. On his coming within a few feet of them one of them, Charles Wedmore, turned suddenly round and fired a pistol at him. Fortunately he escaped injury. After a desperate struggle, and with further assistance, he succeeded in securing the man. In the meantime some officers of the Bristol force came up, one of whom secured Matthew Wedmore. He struggled hard to get a pistol out of his pocket, but, being overpowered, he was thrown upon the ground and the pistol taken from him. It was loaded with powder and shot, and capped.

The two men are nephews of the old couple. They are committed for trial.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

FRESH accidents have occurred from tires breaking. The 1.20 a.m. up night mail from Birmingham had proceeded as far as Cheddington in safety yesterday week, but near this station a peculiar oscillation was experienced by the passengers, who called to the engine-driver to stop the train. Of course their cries could not be heard, but in a brief period afterwards the persons in charge of the train themselves became aware that something serious had happened. The guard applied his break, but it had little, if any, effect; and in another moment the break-van, with other carriages, was thrown off the line, and a portion of the train came into violent collision with the platform at the station. According to the report of the accident, the force of the concussion threw the break-van on the rails again in its right position, and the guard, with great presence of mind, applied his break in the most vigorous manner, and, with the assistance of the engine-driver, the train was ultimately brought to a stand. When lights were obtained it was found that the accident had occurred through the tire of the hind wheel of the parcel-van having flown to pieces in consequence of the action of the frost. One carriage had gone off the line, but there were only four passengers in it, and these were unhurt.

The Irish night mail-train had just left the Tubular Bridge and entered on the Isle of Anglesea when the tire of one of the wheels flew off, causing a carriage to leave the line, and bringing the train to a standstill. The scene that then ensued is described by those who were so fortunate as to escape injury as appalling; the cries of women and the groans of wounded passengers were heartrending. Several persons were taken from the debris of the broken carriage seriously injured, the Post Office clerks especially being severely bruised.

On Monday morning a carriage was thrown off the line on the London and North-Western Railway, at Harrow. A lady had an arm injured, and a gentleman named Craig had a leg fractured.

On the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway two accidents have occurred. The first occurred between Penistone and Huddersfield, where an engine ran off the rails and became detached from the carriages. No one was injured. The second accident took place on Monday evening near Lincoln. The tire of an engine-wheel came off, the engine ran off the rails, dragging the carriages after it, and ran into a bank six or eight feet high. The cleaner, Frederick Taylor, fell off, and the engine fell upon him; he was killed upon the spot. The engine-driver was thrown off, and his head was severely cut; and a passenger had his legs dangerously lacerated.

An accident happened to the down express train on the Great Western Railway on Monday. The train proceeded as far as Twyford without interruption or mishap of any kind. When near that station the axle of the third of the second-class carriages attached to the train broke, and the tires of the wheel flying off smashed all the grease-boxes of the carriage to pieces. The carriage, in which were several passengers, was thrown off the rail by the jerk, causing, as may be supposed, considerable consternation among its inmates. After it had dragged some half a mile the engine-driver succeeded in pulling up the train, and the engaged voyagers were released, and the injured carriage removed from the train. None of the passengers were severely injured, but the train was delayed an hour and a half before it reached Bristol.

SOME SOLDIERS at RANKENGER were amusing themselves throwing about a human skull, playing at "catch," as schoolboys say. It seems as if some secret power lurked in the desecrated skull, for it struck one of the men upon the forehead, and tetanus was the result.

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4s. 6d. Rich Bouquet Tea, 3s. 6d., 3s. 8d., 3s. 10d., 4s., 4s. 2d., 4s. 4d., 4s. 6d., 4s. 8d., 4s. 10d., 5s., 5s. 2d., 5s. 4d., 5s. 6d., 5s. 8d., 5s. 10d., 6s., 6s. 2d., 6s. 4d., 6s. 6d., 6s. 8d., 6s. 10d., 7s., 7s. 2d., 7s. 4d., 7s. 6d., 7s. 8d., 7s. 10d., 8s., 8s. 2d., 8s. 4d., 8s. 6d., 8s. 8d., 8s. 10d., 9s., 9s. 2d., 9s. 4d., 9s. 6d., 9s. 8d., 9s. 10d., 10s., 10s. 2d., 10s. 4d., 10s. 6d., 10s. 8d., 10s. 10d., 11s., 11s. 2d., 11s. 4d., 11s. 6d., 11s. 8d., 11s. 10d., 12s., 12s. 2d., 12s. 4d., 12s. 6d., 12s. 8d., 12s. 10d., 13s., 13s. 2d., 13s. 4d., 13s. 6d., 13s. 8d., 13s. 10d., 14s., 14s. 2d., 14s. 4d., 14s. 6d., 14s. 8d., 14s. 10d., 15s., 15s. 2d., 15s. 4d., 15s. 6d., 15s. 8d., 15s. 10d., 16s., 16s. 2d., 16s. 4d., 16s. 6d., 16s. 8d., 16s. 10d., 17s., 17s. 2d., 17s. 4d., 17s. 6d., 17s. 8d., 17s. 10d., 18s., 18s. 2d., 18s. 4d., 18s. 6d., 18s. 8d., 18s. 10d., 19s., 19s. 2d., 19s. 4d., 19s. 6d., 19s. 8d., 19s. 10d., 20s., 20s. 2d., 20s. 4d., 20s. 6d., 20s. 8d., 20s. 10d., 21s., 21s. 2d., 21s. 4d., 21s. 6d., 21s. 8d., 21s. 10d., 22s., 22s. 2d., 22s. 4d., 22s. 6d., 22s. 8d., 22s. 10d., 23s., 23s. 2d., 23s. 4d., 23s. 6d., 23s. 8d., 23s. 10d., 24s., 24s. 2d., 24s. 4d., 24s. 6d., 24s. 8d., 24s. 10d., 25s., 25s. 2d., 25s. 4d., 25s. 6d., 25s. 8d., 25s. 10d., 26s., 26s. 2d., 26s. 4d., 26s. 6d., 26s. 8d., 26s. 10d., 27s., 27s. 2d., 27s. 4d., 27s. 6d., 27s. 8d., 27s. 10d., 28s., 28s. 2d., 28s. 4d., 28s. 6d., 28s. 8d., 28s. 10d., 29s., 29s. 2d., 29s. 4d., 29s. 6d., 29s. 8d., 29s. 10d., 30s., 30s. 2d., 30s. 4d., 30s. 6d., 30s. 8d., 30s. 10d., 31s., 31s. 2d., 31s. 4d., 31s. 6d., 31s. 8d., 31s. 10d., 32s., 32s. 2d., 32s. 4d., 32s. 6d., 32s. 8d., 32s. 10d., 33s., 33s. 2d., 33s. 4d., 33s. 6d., 33s. 8d., 33s. 10d., 34s., 34s. 2d., 34s. 4d., 34s. 6d., 34s. 8d., 34s. 10d., 35s., 35s. 2d., 35s. 4d., 35s. 6d., 35s. 8d., 35s. 10d., 36s., 36s. 2d., 36s. 4d., 36s. 6d., 36s. 8d., 36s. 10d., 37s., 37s. 2d., 37s. 4d., 37s. 6d., 37s. 8d., 37s. 10d., 38s., 38s. 2d., 38s. 4d., 38s. 6d., 38s. 8d., 38s. 10d., 39s., 39s. 2d., 39s. 4d., 39s. 6d., 39s. 8d., 39s. 10d., 40s., 40s. 2d., 40s. 4d., 40s. 6d., 40s. 8d., 40s. 10d., 41s., 41s. 2d., 41s. 4d., 41s. 6d., 41s. 8d., 41s. 10d., 42s., 42s. 2d., 42s. 4d., 42s. 6d., 42s. 8d., 42s. 10d., 43s., 43s. 2d., 43s. 4d., 43s. 6d., 43s. 8d., 43s. 10d., 44s., 44s. 2d., 44s. 4d., 44s. 6d., 44s. 8d., 44s. 10d., 45s., 45s. 2d., 45s. 4d., 45s. 6d., 45s. 8d., 45s. 10d., 46s., 46s. 2d., 46s. 4d., 46s. 6d., 46s. 8d., 46s. 10d., 47s., 47s. 2d., 47s. 4d., 47s. 6d., 47s. 8d., 47s. 10d., 48s., 48s. 2d., 48s. 4d., 48s. 6d., 48s. 8d., 48s. 10d., 49s., 49s. 2d., 49s. 4d., 49s. 6d., 49s. 8d., 49s. 10d., 50s., 50s. 2d., 50s. 4d., 50s. 6d., 50s. 8d., 50s. 10d., 51s., 51s. 2d., 51s. 4d., 51s. 6d., 51s. 8d., 51s. 10d., 52s., 52s. 2d., 52s. 4d., 52s. 6d., 52s. 8d., 52s. 10d., 53s., 53s. 2d., 53s. 4d., 53s. 6d., 53s. 8d., 53s. 10d., 54s., 54s. 2d., 54s. 4d., 54s. 6d., 54s. 8d., 54s. 10d., 55s., 55s. 2d., 55s. 4d., 55s. 6d., 55s. 8d., 55s. 10d., 56s., 56s. 2d., 56s. 4d., 56s. 6d., 56s. 8d., 56s. 10d., 57s., 57s. 2d., 57s. 4d., 57s. 6d., 57s. 8d., 57s. 10d., 58s., 58s. 2d., 58s. 4d., 58s. 6d., 58s. 8d., 58s. 10d., 59s., 59s. 2d., 59s. 4d., 59s. 6d., 59s. 8d., 59s. 10d., 60s., 60s. 2d., 60s. 4d., 60s. 6d., 60s. 8d., 60s. 10d., 61s., 61s. 2d., 61s. 4d., 61s. 6d., 61s. 8d., 61s. 10d., 62s., 62s. 2d., 62s. 4d., 62s. 6d., 62s. 8d., 62s. 10d., 63s., 63s. 2d., 63s. 4d., 63s. 6d., 63s. 8d., 63s. 10d., 64s., 64s. 2d., 64s. 4d., 64s. 6d., 64s. 8d., 64s. 10d., 65s., 65s. 2d., 65s. 4d., 65s. 6d., 65s. 8d., 65s.